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BIRTHS.

At Foochow, on the 20th August, the wife of G. SIEMSEN, of a son. [1999]
On the 17th July, at the British Embassy, St. Petersburg, the wife of NICHOLAS RODERICK O'CONOR, of a daughter.
At the Western Hills, near Peking, on Wednesday, the 4th August, 1897, Lady MACDONALD, of a daughter.

DEATHS.

On the 28th July, 1897, at Liverpool, GEORGE R. BERWICK, late master of the steamer *Torrington*. [200]
At Nagasaki, on the 25th August, SAMUEL BARFF, for many years resident in Hongkong, aged 68 years. [2001]
At Yokohama, by drowning, EUGENIO PERPERUO, aged 45 years, on the 22nd August.
At Yokohama, by drowning, VICENTE F. BARBADAS, aged 44 years, on the 22nd August.
At 82, Bubbling Well Road, Shanghai, on the 25th August, 1897, WILLIAM PAPPS, aged 62 years.
At Shanghai, on the 31st August, 1897, after a long illness, WILLIAM YOUNGSON, of the Imperial Maritime Customs, aged 57 years.

ARRIVALS OF MAILS.

The American mail of the 5th August arrived, per P. M. steamer *China*, on the 4th September (30 days); and the English mail of the 6th August arrived, per P. & O. steamer *Ravenna*, on the 5th September (30 days).

EPITOME OF THE WEEK.

The new treaty between Holland and Japan was signed at The Hague on the 25th August.

Count Mutsu, ex-Minister for Foreign Affairs, died at his residence in Tokyo on the 24th August.

It is reported that an extensive coal field has been discovered in Shiribeshi province, Japan.

Mr. James Troup, British Consul at Yokohama, has been promoted to the rank of Consul-General.

During the absence of Sir Nicholas Hannen from Shanghai Mr. R. W. Mansfield will act as Consul-General and Chief Justice.

The German Commercial Commissioners—Dr. Knappe, the Consul at Canton, and nine other gentlemen—are at present in Japan and on the 21st August inspected the commercial bazaar in the Agricultural and Commercial Department.

The *Nagasaki Shipping List* has the following:—The report that Dr. Abercrombie, U.S. Consul at this port, had been appointed Minister to Siam was unfounded. Dr. Abercrombie's many friends will be glad to learn that he is about to resume his duties at this port.

An adjourned meeting of the Committee of the Singapore Chamber of Commerce to discuss the fall in silver was held on the 25th August. Mr. John Anderson in the chair. A sub-committee was appointed to consider the whole question and report to the Committee. Thereafter, a general meeting of the Chamber will be called.

In the Legislative Council of the Straits Settlements the Hon. J. P. Joaquim has given notice that at next meeting he will move "That in view of the depreciation of silver and the fall in the value of the dollar this Council considers it reasonable that the fees to be taken by the advocates and solicitors of the Supreme Court should be increased."

A Tokyo press despatch reads:—Formosa being differently circumstanced to the colonies of the Treaty Powers, the new treaties will not apply to the island until some special conditions are agreed to. It is expected that trouble may arise in making this special agreement and the Ministers of State concerned are considering the matter.

The P. M. steamer *China* arrived on Saturday flying the Hawaiian flag, having changed her nationality at Honolulu on the present voyage. The object of the change is to secure that the vessel shall pass under the American flag should Hawaii be annexed by America. She has hitherto carried the British flag, having been built in England.

A telegram received at Shanghai from Wuchang states that H.E. the Viceroy Chang Chih-tung completed the sixtieth year of his age on the 30th of August (3rd day of the 8th moon) and that Their Majesties the Emperor and Empress Dowager sent a great many valuable presents to the Viceroy, of an estimated value of many thousand taels, in honour of the occasion.

Our readers will have observed that the departure of Japanese emigrants for Hawaii has recommenced and that very considerable numbers have left, or are about to leave, for that destination. The explanation is that contract labourers are permitted to enter the islands without difficulty. The immigration of free labour only is at a stand-still. Steps have been taken, however, to put a complete stop to the ingress of Chinese labourers, in view of annexation.—*Japan Mail*.

It is reported from official sources in Peking that the Emperor will soon appoint Hu, Governor of Peking and Chief Director of the Tientsin-Peking Railway, to be Director-General of all Railways north of the Yellow River. This, according to the enemies of H.E. Sheng Hsuan-huai, is supposed to be the first step of the Emperor towards taking away the title held by H.E. Sheng in order to give it to Governor Hu.—*N. C. Daily News*.

A correspondent writes to the *Japan Gazette*: It might interest your readers to learn that the inventor of the story of the British subjects singing "God Save the Queen," on a wreck, a story not true as the Queen was only toasted, was not original. Such a scene has already been depicted by a Frenchman. Guy de Maupassant, in one of his storyettes, "The Wreck," published a few years ago, tells how an Englishman and his three daughters, at midnight on December 3 st, sang "God Save the Queen," though they were on a breaking up wreck. Fiction is sometimes stranger than truth.

According to a Peking native despatch, although H.E. Li Hung-chang should, by right of seniority in rank, always excepting the Princes Kung and Ch'ing, hold the chief directorship of affairs at the Tsungli Yamèn, it is not so at all, and the old statesman actually is relegated to a back seat by his enemies. Of course, Prince Kung, as President, assumes the nominal leadership, but after him, and the one who actually has the direction of the policy of the Foreign Office, is the Manchu Assistant Grand Secretary Jung Lu, President of the Board of War and Commandant of the Peking Gendamerie. He is, moreover, an immense favourite of the Emperor, who greatly admires his really brilliant talents. Anything that the Assistant Grand Secretary Jung Lu recommends to the Throne is never vetoed by the Emperor. Had it not been for this officer Li Hung-chang's name would have been more potent in the Councils of the Tsungli Yamèn. By the death of the late Li Hung-tsao, the vacancy in the Grand Council will probably be filled by Jung Lu.—*N. C. Daily News*.

In the *Japan Herald* of the 25th of August we find details of the arrest at Hakodate of several Chinese belonging to a British man-of-war. It appears that eight Chinese cooks in the service of a British man-of-war, and four Chinese residents in Hakodate, were found gambling in an inn by the police, and were arrested and sent to the Hakodate Chiho Saibansho, after examination by the police. The British Consul demanded their release, on the payment of a fine, to which the Procurators' Bureau would not agree. Correspondence is now being carried on in connection with the matter. The British Minister in Tokyo has addressed the Foreign Office pointing out that of the Chinese now detained in the Hakodate Chiho Saibansho, several are the crew of a British man-of-war and are therefore under British jurisdiction. The Japanese Government has no right to punish them in any way, and the present act of the authorities is regarded as highly improper. To this communication the Foreign Office has replied that the offence in question was committed on land, and that the crew of a British man-of-war may be punished for offences committed outside the man-of-war, when such members of the crew are not registered as British subjects.

THE DISMISSED POLICE OFFICERS.

I.

With the dismissal of Inspector STANTON the last of the Police officers suspended in connection with the bribery scandal has been disposed of and no doubt the public would be pleased if they could regard such a disagreeable incident as finally closed. There are, however, two questions that irresistibly suggest themselves, namely, whether the men have had a fair trial, and, secondly, whether action is to be taken with regard to the other officers whose names were prominently mentioned in the WITCHELL trial. It will be convenient to deal with the second question first. In the course of the proceedings against Inspector WITCHELL Mr. J. J. FRANCIS, Q.C., who appeared with the Attorney-General for the Crown, said—"Questions were asked in reference to 89 [Inspector MANN] and 91 [Acting Inspector HALL]. I want to show that they were in receipt of bribes and that there is no reason why, the entries should be looked upon as 'absurdities.' Thereupon the Chief Justice said—"It came out in evidence that they had been formerly in connection with the Central district and therefore I shall put it to the jury that they might or might not have received bribes." The Attorney-General followed this up by mentioning that his learned friend (Mr. ROBINSON) had introduced Nos. 89 and 91 with a view of showing that those persons were stationed at other places. The Attorney-General proceeded—"He therefore put me to the rather painful task of asking whether both these men were not in charge of these gambling districts before they went to their present stations. I stopped there. If my learned friend says it is absolutely certain that it cannot be right, I say that such an argument is fallacious and I shall have to show that the men did receive bribes." His Lordship was also evidently strongly under the impression that the receipt of bribes by No. 89 and 91 might be proved, as the Crown alleged, as in his summing up he made the following remark:—"The names of Inspector MANN and Acting Inspector HALL appeared in the books and the defence asked the jury to say that the list could not be accepted as genuine because these two men were not stationed in the gambling sections. But both men had been in the Central District and it also appeared that they were still in the colony. Therefore the conclusion was that it was not impossible or not highly improbable or absurd that their names should be in the list. They might have been receiving bribes or they might not, but the jury were not charged with that issue." It is impossible to think that his Lordship would have made such a statement without very carefully bearing in mind what the Crown had said. But MANN and HALL have not yet been suspended and it is a legitimate inference that it is not intended to take action against them. In that case a public apology is due to those two men, who were more prominently mentioned than any other officers in the trial of WITCHELL and who have had their characters publicly besmirched in a criminal court. Justice should be done to them and to the public, in whose eyes they must, in the absence of a formal withdrawal of the charges made, be deemed unworthy of confidence.

In considering whether justice has been done to the officers who have been dismissed special regard must be had to the character of their trial. In the Army no man can be dismissed or reduced in rank

without a formal trial before an impartial tribunal, and in the Police Force in England, although trials for misconduct are not conducted in public, they are conducted before an impartial tribunal, namely, the Watch Committee. The law regarding such cases in Hongkong is embodied in section 24 of Ordinance 14 of 1887, which reads as follows:—"The Governor shall have power upon the representation of the Captain Superintendent to dismiss any subordinate officer or constable for misconduct or neglect of duty, or to approve of the reduction of any sergeant or constable to a lower grade or class in the Force." That section, it will be observed, does not throw upon the Governor any obligation to inquire into the matter for himself or even to see the accused; he may act simply on the papers placed before him. That leaves the Captain Superintendent virtually in the position of a military court-martial, whose finding and sentence are subject to the approval or disapproval of the General Officer Commanding, the recommendation the Captain Superintendent makes being equivalent to a finding and sentence. In the recent cases the Captain Superintendent had the assistance of the Crown Solicitor in his investigations, and no one would dream of doubting the desire of these two officers to be impartial or their ability to sift evidence. Still the fact remains that the Captain Superintendent was at once the accuser and judge, an arrangement repugnant to the whole theory of British justice. To Mr. MAY personally the duty must have been a painful one, for he takes a sincere interest in the Force and all its members, and at one point in the WITCHELL trial his feelings almost overcame him. Both in the interest of the Captain Superintendent and the officers of the Force, therefore, it would be well that in serious cases the investigation should be conducted by some independent tribunal equivalent to the Watch Committee in municipalities at home. It is especially unfortunate, we think, that a commission was not appointed to deal with the recent bribery cases. As we have seen above, mistakes were made with regard to MANN and HALL, and mistakes may equally have been made with regard to some or all of the other officers.

II.

The powers Mr. MAY has been called upon to exercise in connection with the recent trial of police officers are too great to be entrusted to any one man, however conscientious or however able, and when the matter comes to the notice of the Secretary of State, and, as it probably will, to be discussed in Parliament, it can hardly be doubted that those powers will be largely curtailed and that the position of an Inspector of Police in Hongkong will be rendered at least as secure as that of a sergeant in the army, who can only be reduced in rank on the verdict of a Garrison Court Martial, on which no officer of his own regiment is allowed to sit, or that of a Sanitary Inspector in the Hongkong Civil Service, who is entitled to be tried by the Executive Council. Compare the proceedings in the recent case of Sergeant FETTER, of the West Yorkshire Regiment, with those against the Police Inspectors. Sergeant FETTER, when charged with receiving an illegal gratification in his capacity of Canteen Sergeant, had an open trial before a Court composed of officers of other corps than his own, and he was allowed to retain the able assistance of Mr. J. J. FRANCIS, Q.C., who cross-examined the officer commanding the Regiment at the time. Inspector HORE, of the Sanitary Department, when charged in connection with the bribery scandal, had

the benefit of a trial by the Executive Council. The Police Inspectors, on the other hand, have had no trial by an independent tribunal and no legal assistance, but have been tried in secret by their own superior officer, who was also their accuser, and who was granted the assistance of the Crown Solicitor. If the men are guilty of having received bribes they deserve no sympathy, but in the cases dealt with by the Captain Superintendent of Police only one man has been convicted of that offence, the others being convicted simply of neglect of duty. Unless that neglect was with guilty knowledge and for a guilty purpose we do not hesitate to describe the punishment inflicted as excessive. That justice has not been quite even would appear from the fact that no distinction has been made in the punishment of the man convicted of having received bribes and that of those convicted of simple neglect of duty. Important as it is that corruption should be rooted out of the Public Service it is not less important that justice should be administered with all reasonable precautions against its possible miscarriage.

RAILWAYS IN MANCHURIA.

In their last piece goods trade report Messrs. NOEL, MURRAY & Co., of Shanghai, say that a serious obstacle is gradually being built up that threatens to usurp the English and American trade in the Northern provinces. "This is the quiet but steady advance of the Russians into Manchuria. While the two nations most concerned, from a commercial point of view, are apparently quite indifferent, she is slowly but surely absorbing her troops and has already there an army of 80,000 men, while Russian steamers are running on the river as far as Kirin. China is under her thumb and dare not move, and the treaties made, or pending, between Russia, France, and Germany, as recently reported by Reuter, have a significance that Anglo-Saxons interested in this part of the world had best beware of without delay." We would like a little explanation from the writers of the report as to the real meaning of the above extract. Is it that British and American goods cannot compete with Russian goods on even terms, or that the predicted acquisition of Manchuria by Russia will result in a prohibitive tariff being set up? We can hardly suppose the former is the correct meaning, and as to the latter, merchants of all the treaty powers are at present on an equal footing and likely to remain so. Russia would no doubt like to absorb Manchuria, and if opportunity offers she will be found ready to take advantage of it, but we do not discern in the existing circumstances any immediate menace to the trade of other nations. On the contrary the development of the province ought to lead to a large expansion of trade, and any privileges that may be secured by Russia will under the favoured nation clause inure equally to the benefit of all. Trade, however, will naturally follow the easiest routes, and the establishment of railway communication will necessarily cause some diversion of traffic; but to cry over that would be as absurd as the Chinese opposition to great improvements that may incidentally affect some small local interests, as for instance, the opposition to steam navigation on the inland waterways because it is feared it would take away the living of the boatmen. Foreigners in China cannot with any dignity oppose any particular railway in China be-

cause it may happen to divert trade from one port to another, even though the port so benefited should happen to be a Russian one.

In the Newchwang consular report for last year Mr. HOSIE gives some details of railway progress in Manchuria which may be read with interest in connection with Messrs. NOEL, MURRAY AND Co's remarks. The junction of the Trans-Baikal and southern-Ussuri sections of the Trans-Siberian Railway by a line through the south and north of the Hei-lung-Chiang and Kirin provinces respectively, which is to be commenced during the present year (1897), cannot fail, Mr. HOSIE says, to alter in some respects the commercial relations of Manchuria. Hitherto, Hei-lung-Chiang and Kirin have sent the great volume of their produce to Newchwang for export, and have depended to a great extent on the same port for their requirements in the shape of foreign manufactures. True there has been a small trade, chiefly in kerosine oil and seaweed, from Vladivostock to Kirin, and part of the produce of Hei-lung-Chiang and northern Kirin has found its way down the Sungari to Eastern Siberia; but, on the whole, the trade of Manchuria with the Primorsk province has hitherto been comparatively insignificant. As regards distance from the commercial centres of the province of Kirin there is little to choose between Vladivostock and Newchwang, and both ports are closed by ice in winter. So much for the junction line of the Trans-Siberian Railway, and if the matter rested there the probability of a large share of Newchwang's trade being transferred to Vladivostock would seem to be very great, and that might equally mean a change in the character of the trade, Russian goods being substituted for those of other origin. But Mr. HOSIE goes on to say that the construction of the proposed railway from Newchwang to Kirin will give a great impetus to trade, and its extension southwards to Talién-wan Bay, just north of Port Arthur, which is open to navigation all the year round, would tend still further to develop the valuable resources of the whole of Manchuria. It will be seen, therefore, that there is a prospect of Newchwang's benefiting by the opening of railways as much as Vladivostock, and British trade as much as Russian. Mr. HOSIE mentions also that the railway from Tientsin into Manchuria by way of Shanhaikwan is gradually being pushed north-east towards Moukden. The embankment has been built as far as the banks of the Ta-ling-Ho, which flows south some seventeen miles east-by-north of the city of Chinchow-fu, but the line is laid for traffic only as far as Chung-how-so, about forty miles north-east of Shanhaikwan, and even that is not yet in full working order. Mr. HOSIE's report was received at the Foreign Office on the 25th June last, and was presumably written early in May, since when some little further progress will have been made with the line in ordinary course. It would seem on a survey of the whole circumstances that the construction of the Russian railway may be regarded with equanimity by British merchants.

The Foochow Tea Improvement Company, we learn from the *Echo*, recently invited tenders for three small parcels of machine made tea from their Factory, in all 180 half-chests. This was generally responded to, with results gratifying to the shareholders, and with good augury for the future of the proposed new Company. The broken orange pekoe realized over 45½ taels short.

TRADE AND CURRENCY.

"Twenty years of trade" is the title of a brief but interesting paper by Mr. MICHAEL G. MULHALL in the current number of the *Contemporary*. A Straits paper the other day remarked:—"That a gold currency in the Straits could not be for the Colony's advantage we think is evident from the progress of these territories since 'the 50's, when the dollar was 5/-, the 70's when it was 4½, up to the present day when it is down to 1/9½." If Mr. MULHALL's figures are to be accepted Great Britain can have little cause to regret her maintenance of the gold standard, nor need her dependencies fear to follow her example. We have heard much of late years of the injury done to British trade by the appreciation of gold, but British trade has nevertheless continued to increase prodigiously. As regards the United Kingdom the following table shows the value at decennial periods of imports retained for consumption, and that of British exports, in millions of pounds sterling:—

Year.	Imports.	Exports.	Total.
1876	319	201	520
1886	294	212	506
1896	385	240	625

There was a decline between 1876 and 1886, but there was at the same time a stupendous fall in prices, which has continued since, for according to SACERBECK'S table, the price levels of 1886 and 1896 were respectively 28 and 36 per cent. below that of 1876. If prices had remained unaltered the trade returns of 1896 would have been 975 millions, that is, 88 per cent. over those of 1876. Hence it would appear that the volume of the trade rose 88 per cent., or four times as fast as the population. Mr. MULHALL does not give the calculation of what increase the trade of 1886 would have shown over that of 1876 had it not been for the fall in prices, but on the data above given the value in the latter year would have been 648 millions, showing a rise of 24 per cent. The actual increase in the value of the trade from 1886 to 1896 was 24 per cent., and, allowing for the fall in prices, the increase in quantity should be about 31 per cent. Whether the growth of trade would have been greater had the bimetallic ratio been maintained is an interesting subject of speculation. If we turn to China, where cheap silver is supposed to have stimulated trade, we find that the total foreign trade of the country between 1887 and 1896 increased by about 44 per cent., and having regard to the decline of the white metal, as well as to the larger sum on which the percentage increase of British trade has to be calculated, an increase of 23 per cent. in gold may perhaps be considered as not inferior to a 44 per cent. increase in silver. In the case of China it is not much use going further back than the year 1887 for purposes of comparison, as that was the year in which the trade of Kowloon and Lappa was brought into account, and the figures previous to that year therefore refer to different conditions. If cheap silver and dear gold exercised the influence on trade that is generally credited to them either the increase in Great Britain's trade should have been smaller or China's increase should have been greater. It would seem, however, as Sir GEORGE COTTON expressed it the other day at the meeting of the Bombay Mill-owners' Association, that trade is governed more by what one nation has to give and what other nations require than by the

medium with which the balances are adjusted.

Mr. MULHALL devotes the concluding section of his paper to "the world's trade," as shown by the returns of 1894, the latest available, compared with the two previous decennial periods. A table is given showing that while the value of the world's trade as measured in sterling increased during twenty years by 21 per cent. the trade of the British Empire increased by 23 per cent., being in 1894 1,038 millions out of a total of 2,815 millions. The concluding paragraph of the article is as follows:—"Whether we take the United Kingdom, which has advanced, as we have seen, 20 per cent. since 1876, or the British Empire, which shows a rise of 23 per cent., the figures compare very favourably with those of Germany or France, the former having only risen 16 per cent., the latter actually declined. We have also seen that the trade of the United Kingdom for 1896 was 24 per cent. over that of 1886, while the latest returns (1894), as given above, show that in ten years the trade of the United States rose only 9 per cent., that of Germany 7 per cent., and that of France declined 10 per cent. Under these circumstances it is impossible to regard the condition of British trade as other than highly satisfactory."

THE CHEFOO FORESHORE DISPUTE.

Mr. Hopkins, the Acting Consul at Chefoo, in his report for 1896 says:—"The new bunding scheme begun in the year under review and at the time of writing advancing rapidly to completion, is the outcome, and a most satisfactory outcome, of a rather complicated dispute as to foreshore rights. Ultimately a general scheme was agreed upon at Peking by which the Imperial Maritime Customs undertook engineering operations which include the filling in of considerable spaces, as well as the construction of a public bund and sea wall with two jetties, the whole constituting a work of extension and improvement which will be of the most real benefit to the trade and shipping of this port. At the same time the British firm aggrieved was awarded 30,000 taels (say £5,000) under an arbitration conducted by Her Majesty's Consul and the Commissioner of Customs at Shanghai in respect of the site which has been acquired by a Russian firm." It will be remembered that the site in question was claimed by the British firm under their alleged foreshore rights and it was contended that the Chinese Government had no right to dispose of the land. While the controversy was in progress we argued that, following the principle of English law, the owners of waterside lots could not claim the foreshore, but would be entitled to compensation if deprived of access to the water; and that there was nothing in Chinese law to justify the tradition that owners of marine or riparian lots had an absolute title to all accretions to such lots. The decision arrived at seems to support that view, but it was given upon what Mr. HOPKINS rightly terms "a rather complicated dispute" and no written statement, answering to the judgment of a court of law, having been given of the grounds of the decision, it is doubtful how far it is to be taken as a reliable precedent. Owners of marine and riparian lots, however, would do well to take note of it and make effective their occupancy of all the land over which they conceive they have a claim. But whatever

may be its bearing on questions of private right, the outcome of the dispute at Chefoo has been most satisfactory from a public point of view, as it has led to the carrying out of an extensive reclamation and bunding scheme, a plan of which is attached to Mr. HOPKINS' report.

JAPAN'S NEW CURRENCY LAW.

Mr. LOWTHER, the Secretary of Legation at Tokyo, in his report on the Budget of Japan for the fiscal year 1897-98, refers to the currency law which comes into operation next month. Amongst the reasons given as having prompted the introduction of this measure is the supposition that the depreciation of silver had caused prices to rise 30 per cent. in Japan. "It is hoped," says Mr. LOWTHER, "that the adoption of the gold standard will prevent fluctuations in prices and the disturbance of relation between debtor and creditor, that exports will increase, and that it may remove difficulties in the conclusion of a foreign loan." The appreciation of gold has been alleged as a potent disturber of the relation between debtor and creditor, but if that has been so in the past there is reason to believe that the pendulum is now swinging the other way and that silver is becoming the more unstable medium. As to the expectation that exports will increase under a gold standard, considerable apprehension is being expressed at present that the effect will be the contrary, owing to the recent heavy fall in exchange and the advantage it is assumed cheap silver confers on China. It is to be noted, however, that the mercantile classes in India do not complain of the effect the currency change there has had upon business, and Japan's experience may be equally fortunate. The Hongkong General Chamber of Commerce does not consider that a change of currency would be practicable for this colony, but it appears to us that it is merely a question of time when the whole mercantile world, China included, will be on a gold basis.

PROTECTIONS AGAINST INFECTED MILK.

(4th September.)

From the annual report of the Government Analyst it appears that during the year 1896 eleven samples of milk were analysed, of which four were found to contain added water to the extent of 28 per cent., 17 per cent., 7 per cent., and 6 per cent. respectively. These figures show that the practice of milk adulteration obtains to a very considerable extent in the colony. The danger this constitutes to the public health is shown in the report by Dr. CLARK laid before the Legislative Council the other day. It appears that fifty-six cases of enteric fever have occurred during the current year and of this number forty-three were Europeans. Nineteen cases were imported into the colony by the shipping, leaving twenty-seven to be accounted for locally, twenty-seven of which were of European nationality. In the series of European cases which occurred during the month of June Dr. CLARK says it is very clear to his mind that they must have had some connection with the milk supplied to these persons and this conviction became more certain when he proved that such milk supply was in part derived from Chinese sources, and that these sources were extremely liable to contamination owing to the adulteration of the milk with water. Dr. CLARK therefore suggests the introduction of an Ordinance, similar in effect

to the Imperial Infectious Diseases Prevention Act of 1890, empowering the Government to prohibit for a time the supply of milk from any dairy when such milk is likely to cause or has caused infectious disease in the colony. In the orders of the day for Monday's meeting of the Legislative Council we notice the first reading of a Bill entitled an Ordinance to prevent the spread of Infectious Disease arising from the Consumption of Contaminated or Unwholesome Milk. It would appear therefore that the Government has promptly adopted Dr. CLARK's suggestion and it is to be hoped the Bill may be found a workable measure that will have the effect of diminishing enteric fever, the recent prevalence of which has justifiably caused some alarm amongst the European community. In former days it was customary to have the milk drawn from the animals at the consumer's door, and the risk of contamination was proportionately small, but now that the milk is distributed in bottles from the dairies the dairymen have opportunities of adulteration which it would appear that some of them do not fail to take advantage of.

THE CONTROL OF OPIUM DIVANS.

The Ordinance to further amend the Prepared Opium Ordinance naturally will attract but little attention from the general public, but its provisions are not without interest, both from a sanitary and moral standpoint. The new Ordinance is specially designed to give the Government the necessary powers to more effectively control and regulate opium divans. Hitherto these places have been under no direct control, and they are for the most part insanitary dens, the moral atmosphere of which is as much charged with impurity as the air is with microbes. So long as the Chinese smoke opium, which may be safely counted an indefinite period, so long will opium divans or smoking rooms flourish. The best thing to be done, therefore, is to see that these places are kept clean and maintained in a sanitary condition. It is also desired to exclude, as far as possible, females from these haunts, and with this view a clause has been inserted in the Ordinance providing that no persons other than adult males shall be admitted to smoke in the divans, and that the admission of women, other than *bona fide* members of the keeper's family, shall be forbidden. There was some discussion, and eventually a division over the insertion of the words "*bona fide*," which were suggested by Dr. HO KAI, the Attorney-General appearing to think it possible that this would afford a loophole for abuses to creep in. Dr. HO KAI pointed out, however, that it was proposed to make an exception in favour of the wife of the saloon keeper, who probably would not enter the divan, and exclude the domestic servant, who would be required to do so. Eventually the amendment was carried, and there need be little fear of females being found in these saloons. At the same time they will, presumably, be open to the inspection of the Police, and if any attempt is made to convert them into haunts of vice, such as the so-called opium joints in California, they will be promptly suppressed. So long, however, as they serve only the purpose for which they are established, namely, to provide the coolie with a place wherein he can obtain the solace—if it be one—of a pipe of opium, the opium divans will not be interfered with. Having cared for their sanitary condition and taken steps to prevent their being converted into places of ill fame, the duty of the State ceases.

SILVER MINING IN CHINA.

At a moment when silver is a drug in the world's markets and it is reported that even the great Broken Hill Silver Mines have had to shut down, it is curious to hear of some Chinese gentry petitioning their Authorities for permission to reopen an ancient silver mine in the province of Chekiang. It seems that there is an ancient mine in the Huchou district which when worked, some four hundred years ago, was very rich, yielding large quantities of ore. It had to be abandoned on account of an influx of water, but the promoters of its re-opening urge that with the aid of modern mining machinery and powerful centrifugal pumps, there will be no difficulty in developing the mine further and making it a profitable undertaking. The bullion, they urge, could be used to supply the Hangchow Mint. An official has been despatched by the Governor of the province to make inquiries and ascertain whether the circumstances are as stated, and if they turn out as promising as they are reported, the mine will no doubt be reopened. Whether the owners of the mine or the Authorities (if they worked it) would ever realise any profit from the venture is another matter. Probably they would not. The usual crowd of hangers-on and subordinate officials would be appointed to watch progress and, as in the case of the Taiyushan mines, they would so handicap the enterprise as to prevent it from ever yielding a decent interest on the capital invested. Mines in China will, we fear, never pay the honest investor. There are always a legion of official underlings attached to any industry, and these bloodsuckers would take care to secure for themselves the lion's share of the profit. The present is hardly an auspicious moment to reopen silver mines, but if they are exceptionally rich in ore, if that ore can be easily won, and, if the metal can be economically separated from the stone, then there is some chance of its turning out successfully, always provided that the official finger be kept out of the pie. It is, however, hardly probable that the Huchou mines will fulfil all these conditions, and the simple minded gentry of that district will find that no silver mine is likely, at the present rate, to prove a bonanza. If China can produce gold in large quantities, there is room for it, and it will be well worth the cost of extraction.

THE ATTACK ON PRESIDENT FAURE.

It is rather a sinister omen, and strikes a jarring note in the midst of the rejoicings with which President FAURE was welcomed back in Paris after his visit to Russia, that a bomb should have been exploded at the Madeleine just after he had passed that historic church. It is true that the missile exploded harmlessly, but it is not conceivable that it was placed there with harmless intent. The Socialists or Anarchists, probably the latter, seemed to have marked the worthy gentleman who holds the post of first Magistrate of the French Republic with so much modest dignity down for their prey. On the eve of his departure for St. Petersburg a canister full of nails exploded (also harmlessly) in the Boulevard Demain, in Paris, a few minutes subsequent to the President passing along the thoroughfare. Because these attempts were miserable bungles, or designed to frighten the President, it must not be im-

aged that there is no real danger to be apprehended from similar demonstrations. The fate of President CARNOT in 1894 must not be forgotten. Messieurs the assassins do not always make a mess of their work; too often they smite with only too well studied a precision, and the third essay upon the life of President FAURE may not prove such a failure as the former attempts. We trust the French Government will take efficient precautions, for the Anarchists are full of resources and will not hesitate to sacrifice the lives of those against whom they do not pretend a grievance so long as they can strike terror among the constituted authorities. It is a curious commentary upon the republican form of government that, though beautiful in theory, it does not by any means assure to the people who accept it the liberty and equality it proclaims, and it fails to secure for its chief citizen the safety from violence which sovereigns are commonly supposed to vainly desire. In these modern days, within the past thirty years, two Presidents of the United States and one of the French Republic have fallen by the hand of the assassin, a record not to be matched even in autocratic Russia; President FAURE is, like President CARNOT, a man who enjoys the respect and esteem of the mass of the French people for his sterling qualities, and it is sincerely to be hoped that the Police Authorities of Paris will not be caught napping, and another tragedy be perpetrated by the desperate ruffians who sully and betray the cause of Liberty by committing atrocities in her sacred name.

HONGKONG LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL.

A meeting of the Hongkong Legislative Council was held at the Council Chamber on the 6th Sept. Present:—

His EXCELLENCY the Governor, Sir WILLIAM ROBINSON, G.C.M.G.

Colonel ELSDALE (Officer Commanding the Forces).

Hon. J. H. STEWART LOCKHART (Colonial Secretary).

Hon. T. SERCOMBE SMITH (Colonial Treasurer).

Hon. W. CHATHAM (Acting Director of Public Works).

Hon. F. H. MAY, C.M.G. (Captain Superintendent of Police).

Hon. R. MURRAY RUMSEY (Harbour Master).

Hon. C. P. CHATER, C.M.G.

Hon. Ho Kai.

Hon. T. H. WHITEHEAD.

Hon. E. R. BELLIOS, C.M.G.

Hon. J. J. BELL-IRVING.

Hon. WEI A YUE.

Mr. J. G. T. BUCKLE (Clerk of Councils).

NEW MEMBER.

Colonel Elsdale took the oath and his seat as Officer Commanding the Forces during the absence of H. E. Major-General Black, C.B.

MINUTES.

The minutes of the last meeting were read and confirmed.

FINANCE COMMITTEE.

The COLONIAL SECRETARY brought up the report of the Finance Committee (No. 6), which was adopted.

PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE.

The ACTING DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC WORKS moved the adoption of the report of the Public Works Committee.

The motion was carried.

SUPPLEMENTARY APPROPRIATION

ORDINANCE.

The COLONIAL TREASURER moved the first reading of a Bill entitled an Ordinance to authorise the Appropriation of a Supplementary sum of \$341,025.37 to defray the charges of the year 1896. He explained that he would reserve any remarks that might be necessary until the second reading of the Bill.

The COLONIAL SECRETARY seconded.

Bill read a first time.

THE INFECTED MILK ORDINANCE.

In the absence of the Attorney-General the COLONIAL SECRETARY moved the first reading of a Bill entitled an Ordinance to prevent the spread of infectious disease arising from the consumption of contaminated or unwholesome milk. The mover said he had no doubt that at the next meeting of Council the hon. the Attorney-General would fully explain the reasons for the introduction of this measure.

The COLONIAL TREASURER seconded.

Bill read a first time.

THE HONGKONG FIRE BRIGADE ORDINANCE.

The COLONIAL SECRETARY, in the absence of the Attorney-General, moved the first reading of a Bill entitled An Ordinance to further amend the Hongkong Fire Brigade Ordinance, 1868.

The COLONIAL TREASURER seconded.

Bill read a first time.

ADJOURNMENT.

The Council adjourned until next Monday.

SUPREME COURT.

7th September.

IN APPELLATE JURISDICTION.

BEFORE SIR JOHN CARRINGTON (CHIEF JUSTICE) AND MR. A. G. WISE (PUISNE JUDGE.)

CHEUNG YAU TO AND OTHERS, APPELLANTS, V. THE BANK OF CHINA, JAPAN, AND THE STRAITS, LIMITED, RESPONDENTS.

The appellants, the defendants in the court below, appealed against the judgment of the Chief Justice delivered against them on the 21st December, 1896.

The action was brought against the appellants, who are the executors and executrix of Cheung Kai, deceased, to recover \$100,000, being the amount due under the joint and several bond of Cheong Koon Sing and Cheong Kai, deceased, to the plaintiff bank, dated 25th August, 1891, and conditioned for payment of the sum of \$100,000 on default being made by the said Cheong Koon Sing to perform and observe the duties set forth in the bond.

The appeal was heard on 23th June and subsequent days.

Mr. E. Robinson (instructed by Mr. H. L. Dennys) appeared for the appellants, and Mr. J. J. Francis, Q.C., and Mr. H. E. Pollock (instructed by Mr. Master) for the respondents.

The Chief Justice delivered a written judgment. He was of opinion, after having carefully considered the arguments, that the decision in the Court below must be upheld.

The Puisse Judge concurred.

The appeal was therefore dismissed with costs against the appellants.

HONGKONG SANITARY BOARD.

A meeting of the Sanitary Board was held at the offices on 3rd September. Dr. Atkinson (Principal Civil Medical Officer) presided and there were also present—Hon. F. H. May, (Captain Superintendent of Police), Hon. W. Chatham (Acting Director of Public Works), Dr. Clark (Medical Officer of Health), and Mr. H. McCallum (Secretary).

MINUTES.

The minutes of the previous meeting were read and confirmed.

THE BY-LAW RELATING TO PRIVATE STREETS.

The MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH moved—"That the Sanitary Board desires to invite the attention of the Government to the circumstance that a by-law relating to the obstruction of private streets was made by the Board on the 17th of December, 1896, but failed to receive the approval of the Legislative Council. This bye-law was subsequently referred, by the Government, to the Insanitary Properties Commission and certain amendments, suggested by that Commission, were adopted by the Board, and a new by-law was made on June 17th, 1897, but has not yet received the approval of the Legislative Council. The Board is of the opinion that the matter is one of vital importance to the sanitary condition of the colony and especially the City of Victoria, and urges

upon the Government the desirability of the bye-law being approved by the Legislative Council at as early a date as possible." The mover said he need not show the necessity for the speedy enactment of this by-law, as both the Sanitary Board and the Insanitary Properties Commission were convinced of the necessity.

The PRESIDENT seconded and said he was sure every one would agree that it was very desirable that the bye-law should be made as soon as possible.

Carried.

BUBONIC PLAGUE IN BOMBAY.

The official report from Bombay showed that from the 13th July to the 3rd August there were 49 cases of bubonic plague in that city, 39 of them proving fatal.

NO PLAGUE EPIDEMIC AT AMOY.

A letter, dated 23rd August, was read from H.B.M.'s Consul at Amoy, who said that the medical officers there had stated that in their opinion bubonic plague had ceased to be epidemic at Amoy and existed only in sporadic form. He had also interviewed the Commissioner of Customs, who said that the interior was free from plague and also Amoy city. It did exist, however, at a spot to the north of the city, where, according to information gained from Chinese sources, some seven or eight deaths occurred daily. The medical report stated that for the three weeks ending August 26th there had been a marked decrease in the number of cases of plague. A telegram was also received from Amoy, dated 30th ult., to the effect that the medical officers at Amoy had reported that bubonic plague had finished there.

MORTALITY STATISTICS.

For the week ended 21st August the death rate was 19.6 as against 18.6 for the corresponding period of last year. For the week ended 28th August the rate was 14.1 as against 16.2 for the corresponding period of last year.

ADJOURNMENT.

The Board adjourned until Thursday week.

THE POLICE SCANDAL.

On the 2nd Sept. the decision in the case of Detective-Inspector Stanton, who was suspended on the 13th July for gross neglect of duty, was made known. As in the three previous cases Inspector Stanton was, on the representation of the Captain Superintendent of Police, dismissed from the Police Force by His Excellency the Governor for gross neglect of duty in not reporting a common gaming house at No. 2, Wa Lane.

On the 7th Sept. the officers who were dismissed from the Police Force for neglecting to report a gambling house were paid the whole of their wages which had accrued up to the date of their dismissal.

Police Sergeant Phelps has been called upon to resign. The question of his pension will be referred to the Secretary of State for the Colonies.

THE TAXATION OF KEROSENE IN KWANGTUNG.

The following letter has been received by the Chamber of Commerce from the British Consul at Canton:—

H.B.M.'s Consulate,
Canton, 28th August, 1897.

Sir.—I beg to inform you for the benefit of all who are interested in the trade, that some time ago the Head Likin Office at Canton issued a proclamation notifying the public that all kerosine oil before being forwarded into the interior must pay thirty cents a case to the tax farmers under the name of terminal tax; and warning all dealers that if any oil that had not paid this tax was found up country, whether under transit pass or not, the possessors would be prosecuted and made to pay the tax.

I called the attention of His Excellency the Viceroy to this infringement of the transit pass regulations, and I have since received His Excellency's assurance that the Likin Office's proclamation would be cancelled, and that kerosine oil conveyed into the interior under transit pass would not on arrival at its destination and after it was separated from the transit

pass, be called upon to pay any tax other than was leviable on oil that had paid likin en route.
—I am, sir, your obedient servant,

BYRON BRENNAN.
Consul.

The Chairman Hongkong General Chamber of Commerce, Hongkong.

THE CHAMBER OF COMMERCE AND THE EXCHANGE QUESTION.

We have received the following minutes and correspondence for publication:—

At a special meeting of the General Committee of the Hongkong General Chamber of Commerce held at noon on Friday, the 3rd September—Present:—Messrs. R. M. Gray (Chairman), Herbert Smith (Vice-Chairman), J. J. Bell-Irving, T. Jackson, N. A. Siebs, T. H. Whitehead, and R. C. Wilcox (Secretary)—called to consider what action should be taken on a letter received from the Singapore Chamber of Commerce, dated 26th August.

The letter, which stated that the Singapore Committee had under consideration the question whether the Government should be approached with the object of devising some means of obtaining fixity of exchange, and whether it might not be possible for the Hongkong Chamber to work together with them in moving for some remedy for the evils brought on by the very heavy decline in silver, was read.

The Chairman said it was gratifying that the Singapore Chamber should have consulted them in this matter, as it showed a desire on their part to work in unison with Hongkong, which could not fail in the long run to result in the common good, but the question at issue appeared to him beset by more than ordinary difficulties for them and he feared was impracticable for Hongkong.

The matter was then discussed at some length, and it was decided to reply that, in view of the very different positions occupied by the two colonies, Hongkong being situated on the borders of the Chinese Empire, with which its trade is mainly conducted, and whose currency is silver, any change was impracticable, and the Chamber did not therefore contemplate taking any action in recommending to the Government any change in the existing currency.

(Correspondence.)

SINGAPORE CHAMBER TO HONGKONG CHAMBER.

Chamber of Commerce,
Singapore, 26th August, 1897.

Dear Sir,—I am instructed by my Committee to inform you that they have at present under consideration the subject of local currency and in connection therewith the question of whether Government should be approached with the object of devising some means of obtaining fixity of exchange.

2. The recent very heavy decline in silver has led to the question being viewed here with even more gravity than in the past, and, as the subject must also be of material interest to Hongkong, my Committee have instructed me to acquaint you that it is now receiving consideration at the hands of a Sub-Committee, and I am also directed to enquire if your Chamber contemplates moving in the matter in any way.

3. One object that my Committee has in view—if the Hongkong Chamber of Commerce contemplates taking action upon this important matter—is to consider whether it may not be possible for the two Chambers to work together in moving for some remedy, and I shall be glad if you will favour me with any information that may assist in arriving at an opinion on that point.—Your faithfully,

ALEX. F. GUNN,
Secretary.

R. Chatterton Wilcox, Esq., Secretary, Hongkong Chamber of Commerce.

HONGKONG CHAMBER TO SINGAPORE CHAMBER.

Hongkong General Chamber of Commerce,
Hongkong, 4th September, 1897.

Dear Sir,—I have to acknowledge receipt of your letter of the 26th ult. stating that your Committee have under consideration the subject of local currency and the advisability of

approaching the Government with the object of devising some means whereby to secure fixity of exchange; inquiring whether this Chamber contemplates taking action in this important matter; and suggesting the possibility of the two Chambers working together, with a view to finding some remedy for an admitted evil.

My Committee lost no time in meeting to consider the suggestions of your Chamber, recognising as they did the great importance of the question at issue, and fully appreciating the friendly desire shown for mutual action. I am, however, instructed to point out the very different positions occupied by the two Colonies, which render it impossible, on this occasion, for combined action in the direction of procuring relief from the instability of silver. Situated on the borders of the greatest silver using empire in the world, with which country its trade is mainly conducted, it would be wholly impracticable for this colony to attempt a currency divorce from China, however much, for some reasons, such a departure might at first sight seem desirable.

I am instructed, therefore, by my Committee to inform you that in the present instance they are unable to comply with your invitation, as they do not see their way to take either individual or combined action in recommending to the Government any change in the existing currency here.—I am, dear sir, yours faithfully.

R. CHATTERTON WILCOX,
Secretary.

Alex. F. Gunn, Esq., Secretary, Singapore Chamber of Commerce.

COAL MINE CONCESSIONS IN THE PHILIPPINES.

The coal beds in the island of Cebu known as the Uling and Lutac mines will be offered by the Philippine Government at public auction on the 22nd January, 1898, under a special concession for 99 years, upon terms which must be considered favourable and which are published in the *Gaceta de Manila* of 22nd July, 1897. We translate the principal conditions laid down as follows:—

The Company bidding must have a minimum capital of \$350,000, of which at least two-thirds shall be paid up, and it is required to make a guarantee deposit with Government of 2 per cent., say \$7,000, the basis of production being a minimum of 36,000 tons a year, of which Government requires one half at a reduction upon the current market price of the day of delivery of similar coal, the extent of this reduction forming the basis of sale, for instance, 15 cents a ton off market price will be preferred to 10 cents reduction, and so on.

The Company shall pay the Government 15 cents of a dollar per ton on all coal extracted, to defray expenses of periodical inspection of the mines, the Company being at liberty to provide its own skilled and unskilled labour for working the mines and railway without any official intervention, or interference by the authorities, beyond the usual police service for the preservation of order.

A railway six to eight miles in length will have to be built from the mines to the port of Tinaan, on the east coast of Cebu, where a jetty will be put up for vessels to load at. Plans of the mines can be seen at the Public Works Office in Manila, but admitting of any modification or extension the Company may think fit or desirable in harmony with the opinion of the inspecting engineer.

The railway and jetty concession requires the guarantee deposit to be increased to \$17,500, the whole being returnable upon completion of the work, say \$10,500 when the railway and jetty are finished and balance in annual payments in proportion to the development of the mines reported by the inspecting engineer.

The Company must have a branch registered at Manila to confer with, and in case of the Government being at any time involved in war and requiring the whole of the coal output they are to have the preference on terms of contract.

All material for railway, mining machinery, etc., will be admitted into the country free of Customs duties, and work on the railway, jetty, and on the mines must be commenced within six months of the concession being confirmed, and concluded within three years from the date of commencement, under pain of annulment of the concession.

The Government undertake that no modification of the mining laws to affect this concession adversely shall take place during its existence, and all privileges now granted or that may hereafter be granted to mining industries will be accorded to the Company obtaining this special concession.

The mines of Uling and Lutac, though apparently separate concessions, are to all intents and purposes one and the same, and they can be worked simultaneously, or only one at a time, Uling being the more important, and should it alone be worked at first Lutac need not be, unless at the convenience of the Company, but if not begun within ten years of the formation of the Company the delay would involve a cancellation of the concession to that extent.

Should any unforeseen accident in the working of the mines take place, such as to render impossible the production of the minimum quantity required by the contract, namely, one hundred tons per working day, the Government may modify its terms in conformity with the opinion of the inspecting engineer and as may be warranted by circumstances.

The mines of Uling and Lutac were worked successfully some forty or fifty years ago, and from 40,000 to 50,000 tons extracted, but only single individuals being interested, now both dead, and their heirs being unable to continue the working, the concessions reverted to the Government. The quality of the coal, principally surface, was found to be fairly good for steaming, but quality, as is always the case, improved as the lower seams were reached and was on the average considered fully equal to Japan lump.

The Philippines are full of bituminous coal, and concessions on even better terms than the mines above named can be had. The Government, being anxious to attract capitalists to work coal and other mines, will give every possible facility and protection to such industries, admitting all kinds of machinery free of duty and inviting all labour, skilled and unskilled, from the outside world that may be necessary for such work. Samples of Philippine coal can now be seen in Hongkong, we understand, and we hear that a small cargo will be sent over here shortly to introduce it to consumers. It will take some little time to get mines in working order for large supplies, but looking at the present prices being paid for Japan and other qualities there should be a certain market for all the Philippines can produce, and at an exchange that gives fully eleven dollars to the pound sterling, English capital will certainly be attracted to this hitherto unexplored but lucrative field.

There has been a certain prejudice against surrounding foreign countries as fields of enterprise, a good deal of it arising from non-acquaintance with their laws and customs, and partly from a now happily obsolete dog-in-the-manger policy ruling twenty-five or thirty years ago; and while we would recommend a closer acquaintance with their habits and customs, not so their laws, which in themselves may be excellent, though badly administered, but not to be played with. The rule would seem to apply elsewhere as well, if what is reported be true of a legal magnate, not a hundred miles from Temple Bar, lately gone over to the majority, who bequeathed the best part of half a million to a well known establishment at Colney Hatch, his will reading that this was "the most proper disposition of his large fortune, made out of lunatics, that he should leave to them what had once been their own."

The *N. C. Daily News* of the 28th August says:—The crematorium at the new cemetery has been tested very frequently in order to ascertain if it works properly, with satisfactory results. The bodies of bullocks have been passed through the furnace with the result that, within the specified time, there remained nothing of the carcass of a bullock but a large handful of ashes. These tests having proved that the crematorium was capable of properly performing the work for which it was erected, it was actually made use of for cremating a human body on Thursday last, the ceremony occupying a little over an hour. The result proved that the crematorium is in thoroughly reliable order.

THE INFECTED MILK ORDINANCE.

The following are the objects and reasons attached to the Infected Milk Ordinance, read a first time at the meeting of the Legislative Council on Monday afternoon:—

It was found necessary in England to confer power on the Medical Officer of Health to inspect dairies, and, in case he should be of opinion that infectious disease was caused by the consumption of milk supplied from any such dairy, he was required to report his opinion to the local authority. Thereupon, the local authority was to call upon the dairyman to show cause why an order should not be made by such authority requiring him not to supply any milk from such dairy till the order should be withdrawn. These powers were conferred, in England, by section 4 of The Infectious Diseases (Prevention) Act, 1890.

The present Ordinance, suggested by the Medical Officer of Health, proceeds upon similar lines, having regard to local circumstances.

Section 5, which is based upon the Dairies, Cowsheds, and Milkshops Orders of the Privy Council and Local Government Board in England, provides a penalty in the case of a dairyman allowing any infected person to milk the animals, assist in the conduct of the dairy, or to reside in such part of the dairy as may be used for the housing of cattle or storage of milk.

It is hoped that the fact of such an Ordinance being brought into force in this colony will enable the Medical Officer of Health to exercise more effective supervision over the milk supplies of the colony and cause dairymen to use greater vigilance to prevent the possibility of contamination of the milk sold by them.

THE HONGKONG FIRE BRIGADE ORDINANCE.

The Ordinance to further amend the Hongkong Fire Brigade Ordinance, 1868, was read for the first time at the meeting of the Legislative Council on 6th Sept. Section 1 cites the title, section 2, the construction, and section 3 repeals sections 5 and 10 of Ordinance No. 4 of 1868. The other sections are as follows:—

In lieu of section 5 the words following shall be substituted:—

(a.)—The Superintendent may, from time to time, make regulations for the general management and discipline of the Fire Brigade and may impose penalties not exceeding ten dollars, or punishment by confinement to station for a period not exceeding one week, for any breach of any of such regulations; but such regulations shall have no force, or effect until they have been approved by the Governor in Council and published in the *Government Gazette*.

Any member of the Fire Brigade who refuses to pay any such penalty or to undergo any such punishment as may be inflicted by the Superintendent for breach of any of such regulations shall be liable to instant dismissal by the Governor.

(b.)—The Superintendent may, from time to time, without reference to the Governor, but subject always to the disallowance or the revision of the Governor, make such Departmental orders as he may consider necessary for the efficient working of the Fire Brigade, the due regulation of the internal economy thereof, and the carrying out of the daily routine of such Brigade.

5.—This Ordinance shall come into operation on such day as may be fixed by a notice in that behalf published in the *Government Gazette*.

OBJECTS AND REASONS.

It has been found by successive Superintendents that, for the maintenance of discipline, the Superintendent should have the power of punishing the men under his command within certain limits. The amending Ordinance confers such power.

It has been found that the vesting of the sole power of making regulations in the Governor in Council is a cumbersome system which does not work well in practice.

The framing of regulations and departmental orders by the Superintendent, subject to the approval, revision, or disallowance of the Governor, has therefore been provided for. Similar power, as regards the Police Force, was conferred upon the Captain Superintendent ten years ago by sections 19 and 20 of Ordinance 14 of 1887.

VICTORIA RECREATION CLUB AQUATIC SPORTS.

The annual aquatic sports promoted by the Victoria Recreation Club were commenced on 3rd Sept. There was a very large attendance of members and the sport was exceedingly good. Among those present were Hon. J. H. Stewart Lockhart (Colonial Secretary), Commodore Holland, A.D.C., and Commander W. C. H. Hastings. The following are the results of the first day's events:—

PLUNGING.—Two Prizes.

R. Lapsley, 38 ft. 9 in. ... 1
J. M. E. de Carvalho ... 2
F. M. Roza Pereira ... 3

A. A. Alves, F. W. White, and G. T. Crook also competed.

MEMBERS' RACE, 2 Lengths. (Scratch). Two Prizes.

A. A. Alves ... 1
R. Lapsley ... 2

J. M. E. de Carvalho and F. W. White also competed. Alves and Lapsley made a most exciting race of it, Alves getting home by a touch. Time—59 secs.

WATER POLO.—Teams of Seven.

Royal Artillery beat V.R.C. by four goals to one.

RUNNING HEADER FROM SPRING BOARD.—Two Prizes.

J. M. E. de Carvalho ... 1
A. A. Alves ... 2

R. P. Lammett and F. W. White also competed.

SWIM UNDER WATER.—(Two prizes). The distance is calculated to the point where the water is first broken by any part of the body.

J. M. E. de Carvalho ... 1
N. A. Gonsalves ... 2

F. M. Roza Pereira, R. Lapsley, W. W. Toller, T. Meek, and H. S. Gomes, Jr., also competed.

MEMBERS' RACE, (over 30 years of age).—Two lengths. (Handicap). Two prizes.

T. Meek ... 1
G. Mollison ... 2

M. McIver and G. L. Duncan also competed.

The winner gave Mollison 5 secs., Duncan 8 secs., and McIver 10 secs., and won easily.

CLOTHES RACE.—Two Lengths.

A. A. Alves ... 1
J. M. E. de Carvalho ... 2

R. Lapsley and F. W. White also competed.

WATER POLO.—Teams of seven.

V. R. C. beat the West Yorkshire Regiment after a very fine struggle by three goals to two.

The concluding day's proceedings at the Victoria Recreation Club Aquatic Sports were exceedingly interesting. There was again a very large attendance, among those present being H.E. the Governor, Sir William Robinson.

The principal event was of course the race for the championship of the colony, which was an open event. There were six competitors, three of them being privates in the West Yorkshire Regiment. One of the soldiers, Dimmock, was thought to have a very good chance of winning, but victory went to A. A. Alves, who was in the pink of condition and maintained a steady, strong stroke throughout the race. He won by about his own length from Carvalho and this advantage would have been greater if he had not gone rather out of the straight line on his last return. It was a capital race and the victory of Alves was very popular.

His time was 2 mins. 15½ secs.—a capital performance. In the eight lengths race only Carvalho and A. A. Alves finished, Carvalho getting home amid some excitement by just a touch. This competitor did remarkably well during the two days and easily won the special prize presented to the winner of most points in non-handicap events. During the afternoon the Band of the West Yorkshire Regiment played many selections of music, which were much enjoyed. The following are the results:—

DIVING FOR OBJECTS. 3 trials; two prizes.

J. M. E. de Carvalho (2 cups) ... 1
J. Hance (7 cups) ... 2

Roza Pereira, A. S. Gomes, L. A. Gonsalves, T. Meek, A. A. Alves, and F. W. White also competed.

CHAMPIONSHIP OF THE COLONY (All comers). Four Lengths. Prize, a cup presented by Mr. A. P. MacEwen.

A. A. Alves ... 1
J. M. E. de Carvalho ... 2
Private Dimmock, W.Y.R. ... 3

R. Lapsley, Private Purvis, and Private Wade also competed. Time—2 mins. 15½ secs.

SMALL BOYS' RACE. (Under 15 years of age). Two lengths. Handicap. (sons or brothers of members only admitted).

D. Carvalho (scratch) ... 1
H. Rencelios (1 sec.) ... 2

Time—1 min. 10 secs.

SHORT RACE. (Two lengths). Handicap.

R. Lapsley (1 sec.) ... 1
J. Hance (6 secs.) ... 2

A. A. Alves (3 secs.), J. Grant Smith (5 secs.), A. A. Alves (scratch), and F. W. White (7 secs.) also competed. Time—52 secs.

FOUR LENGTHS RACE. Restricted to Army, Navy, and Police.

Private Dimmock, W.Y.R. ... 1
Private Purvis, W.Y.R. ... 2
Private Wade, W.Y.R. ... 3

Gunner McFadden, R.A., and Gunner Vernon, R.A., also competed.

Time—2 mins. 15 secs.

LONG RACE. (10 lengths). Distance, 8 lengths. Two prizes.

J. M. E. de Carvalho (scratch) ... 1
A. A. Alves (15 secs.) ... 2

R. Lapsley (8 secs.), J. Grant Smith (15 secs.), W. W. Toller (25 secs.), R. Henderson, and F. W. White (30 secs.) also competed. Time—5 min. 15 secs.

CONSOLOID RACE. Two lengths.

J. Grant Smith ... 1
F. W. White ... 2
Roza Pereira ... 3

Time—45 secs.

WATER POLO. (Teams of seven). Final.

V. R. C. beat the Royal Artillery by nine goals to nil.

CHAMPIONSHIP PRIZE.

A special prize presented to the winner of most points in non-handicap events by Commander W. C. H. Hastings, R.N. (Retired), was won by J. M. E. de Carvalho, who scored 43 points.

DISTRIBUTION OF PRIZES.

There was a very large attendance of the members of the Victoria Recreation Club in the Club gymnasium on 8th September on the occasion of the distribution of the prizes won at the aquatic sports held on Friday and Saturday last. Commander W. C. H. Hastings, chairman of the club, in calling upon Mr. A. P. MacEwen to distribute the prizes, said that Mr. MacEwen was one of the oldest members of the Club and his name figured on one of the boards in that room as a competitor many years ago. There were giants in those days and Mr. MacEwen was one of them. He had presented the cup for the championship of the colony, which showed that he still took a great interest in the welfare of the institution.

Mr. MacEwen, before distributing the prizes, said—Capt. Hastings and gentlemen, I think the presence of such a large assemblage here this afternoon shows the great interest that is taken by the community generally in this popular sport. The sports were the best that have been held in the colony for several years and the attendance was also the largest. (Applause.) I think the introduction of military teams in the water polo competition was a great success, and the play in the tie between the Club premier team and the members of the West Yorkshire Regiment was one of the keenest I have seen, and I have heard several expressions of opinion in the colony that it would give pleasure if another match could be arranged. I think that Mr. Alves, Mr. Carvalho, and Mr. Lapsley are all to be congratulated on their success. (applause)—and it is to be regretted that Mr. Stapani was unable to compete on his own disposition, but I trust we shall see him in the sports on the next occasion. I am also sorry to see that the name of Lammett was not on the list of competitors. Considering the unfavourable and unhealthy condition of the bathing site and the tumble-down state of the premises the Club has shown great vitality. I am given to understand that there are 500 members of this Club. I do not think that the subscription to the Club is very

heavy, namely, \$10 a year. There is another good point, and that is, there is no class distinction. (Applause.) All respectable members of the community are eligible for election. (Applause.) I do not suppose any of us come out to a climate like this for change of air or the benefit of our health, and the best way to ensure that health is by indulging in the exercises that this Club affords in the way of swimming, rowing, and gymnastics. Thanks to the steady advocacy of His Excellency the Governor and Commodore Holland, both of whom warmly encourage manly pastimes in the colony, I am informed that the new reclamation scheme of the Admiralty is not likely to cause any change of site—(applause)—as the foreshore in front of the Club premises is likely to be granted to the Club. I would like to mention a little incident that occurred on the night of our sports twenty-three years ago. The evening was as bright and as calm as it is now and several of us had been out rowing. A typhoon suddenly swept the colony and between 10 and 12 o'clock that night H.M.S. *Opossum* broke from her moorings, demolished the bath house, went clean through the present building, smashed up all our boats, and landed herself on the cricket field. The old *Princess Charlotte* tried to follow suit. Well, we sustained a heavy loss and naturally tried to recover something from the Naval authorities. We received plenty of sympathy but no cash, although I remember well that the then Commodore (Parish) did his best for us. I mention this incident because if there is any doubt about getting the site the Admiralty might take this previous disaster into consideration. (Applause.) When your new Club is started it will be necessary to erect a proper closed in bath, a boat house, and a gymnasium. This, of course, means money, and I must say that in a community such as this the club deserves public support. It is a well known fact that at home in all well regulated cities, both in America and England, there are municipal baths which obtain support from the municipality. We have no municipality here, but I think the Government would give its support to any application that might be made for pecuniary support should it be necessary after the members have shown that they have done all they can themselves. It has afforded me a deal of pleasure to come here to-night, and I would like to say, in closing, that I am sure the members of this Club are greatly indebted to their Chairman, Captain Hastings, for the very great interest he takes in this club (applause). I am also sure you will agree with me that Mr. Reid, the hon. secretary, has fulfilled his duties to the satisfaction of the members. (Applause.)

Mr. MacEwen then distributed the prizes, after which cheers were given for him and for the officers of the Club.

HONGKONG GOLF CLUB.

BEST AVERAGE CUP.

A competition under somewhat novel conditions from a golfer's point of view was offered in the presentation to the Club by Mr. C. W. May of a handsome prize to be played for during August, which as we all well know is a particularly trying month; in the present case the temperature ranged between 84 and 88 deg. in the afternoons, and a very unusual rainfall—somewhere about 26 against an average for ten years of some 14 inches—materially interfered with the return of good scores. The conditions were, with the donor's amiable disposition, made so as to assist members in getting in their rounds without much risk of sunstroke or undergoing an over amount of fatigue, and resulted in twenty-one members returning 118 cards, some ten only of whom accomplished the special condition of a return of six cards.

The successful member is to be congratulated on a very popular win, achieved by a score in no way bad, taking into account the climatic difficulties of the month. The best return was made by the Captain of the Club, who put in a card of 40 for the nine holes. Through the courtesy of a member the links have been recently re-measured, giving the lengths of the holes, from "tee" to hole, as follows: 331, 263, 308, 219, 121, 420, 317, 265, and 314 yards,

making the length for eighteen holes 161 yards under three miles.

The conditions of this competition were briefly as follows: medal play under handicap; best aggregate of six rounds of 9 holes, but members may put in as many cards as they please during the month; handicaps reckoned on those ruling for 18 holes at date of play; returns for other competitions not to reckon; cards to be dated, duly signed by a member, and deposited in the box on the day of play; a round of 9 holes, once commenced, must be completed to entitle a competitor to start the same day on a further round, whether the original score be returned or not; contravention of this final condition to disqualify.

Returns of completed rounds are recorded belows:—

	Scores for each round.	Gross for 9 rounds.	Handicap allowance.	Net score.	Average per round.
Mr. E. A. Ram	48, 47, 47, 45, 44, 43	280	33	247	41½
Mr. W. Taylor	48, 47, 52, 51, 47, 48	293	39	254	42½
Com. Taylor, R.N.	46, 50, 47, 49, 49, 51	292	37	255	42½
Mr. G. Stewart	45, 45, 46, 47, 44, 40	267	9	258	43
Lieut. Plumer, R.N.	50, 52, 53, 52, 50, 48	305	45	260	43½
Mr. C. A. Tomes	50, 45, 49, 48, 48, 49	289	24	265	44½
Mr. H. L. Dalrymple	48, 49, 49, 50, 49, 47	292	24	268	44½
Mr. H. W. Slade	57, 58, 55, 52, 47, 55	324	45	279	46½
Capt. R. M. Rumsey	49, 52, 49, 49, 52, 53	304	24	280	46½
Mr. C. W. Spriggs	65, 65, 58, 66, 59, 56	369	45	324	56

CAPTAIN'S CUP FOR SEPTEMBER.

There was an average number of entries for this monthly event, but the cards returned were few in number and do not indicate a very high class of play:—

CAPTAIN'S CUP.				
Mr. V. A. C. Hawkins	94	8	86	
Mr. G. Millward	103	15	88	
Mr. C. A. Tomes	100	8	92	
18 entries.				
POOL.				
Mr. V. A. C. Hawkins	94	8	86	
Mr. C. A. Tomes	100	8	92	
Mr. J. F. Noble	113	18	95	
11 entries.				

OLIVERS FREEHOLD MINES, LIMITED.

Messrs. John D. Humphreys & Son, the General Managers, inform us that they have received the following report from the Mining Manager:—

Mount Macdonald, 13th August, 1897.
Eureka Mine.—Since reporting on 6th inst. work is now being confined principally to driving the main levels at the 150 feet and 200 feet levels, as sufficient stone can be obtained to keep the old battery constantly going; leaving the main stopes to be operated on as soon as the crushing power is increased. At the 200 feet level the reef in the north drive is 6 feet wide; the foot-wall for some distance had been gradually going away from the hanging wall, but it has made a jump and come back to its true course. In the south drive at this level the reef continues 5 feet and the stone shows gold in both places. At the 150 feet level the main drive north is being pushed ahead on reef 2½ feet wide, showing fair gold. Driving south at this level has been resumed and at present there is a solid well defined reef 4 feet wide between two well defined walls; good gold seen when breaking. We have a few men stopping at back of this level and rising up to connect with the air and mullock shaft. Sinking is being continued in this shaft on the reef 1½ feet wide showing gold.

Main Shaft.—Sinking and timbering going on very satisfactorily all things considered. It is now 41 feet below the 200 feet level; and at 40 feet we just touched the reef coming in at the eastern side of the shaft; but we will have to sink down a few feet alongside of it before we can break into it. We have completed the repairs to shaft on G.L. 15 mentioned in our last, and started to sink.

We have had a nice lot of rain the last 12 hours and it has nearly half filled the battery dam, which was very acceptable.

As compensation for the transfer to Mr. Little's services to the Chinese Legation the Government of the Straits netted \$3,244.23.—
Free Press.

THE NEW BALMORAL GOLD MINING CO., LIMITED.

Messrs. John D. Humphreys & Son, the General Managers, inform us that they have received the following report from the mining manager:—

Mount Macdonald, 13th August, 1897.

Queen Mine.—Contractors have sunk a total of 56 feet in the main shaft, leaving 14 feet to complete their contract. The present depth of the shaft is now 297 feet. On completion of present contract, tenders will be called for sinking an additional 100 feet.

Balmoral Mine.—The tributors on G.L. 5 crushed 4½ tons of stone for a yield of 6 ozs 4 dwts retorted gold. The country being very hard and reef small, this is not a payable yield; but they anticipate an improvement. Two men are employed on G.L. 6 in driving tunnel mentioned in our last; but nothing to report yet.

S. C. FARNHAM AND CO., LIMITED.

The following is the report of the Board of Directors for presentation at the fifth annual general meeting, to be held at the head office, Shanghai, on the 8th September:—

To the shareholders of S. C. Farnham & Co., Limited.

Gentlemen.—The Directors have much pleasure in submitting to you their report with statements of accounts for the year ending 30th June last, which they hope will prove satisfactory to you.

In April last we commenced building our new dock for deep drafted vessels by altering and enlarging our former Lower Dock. This we have named the "Cosmopolitan Dock," and the work is progressing favourably.

Mr. Jas. R. Twentymen went home on leave in March last, and Mr. Geo. Peebles joined the Board on the 1st April.

The Net Profits, after paying all charges, amount to Tael 193,356.95, including Tael 13, 38.03 carried forward from last year.

This amount the directors propose to appropriate as follows:—

A dividend of Tls. 12.00 per share	Tls. 90,000.00
Amount to be placed to reserve fund	75,000.00
Amount to be transferred to depreciation and maintenance fund	10,000.00
Balance to be carried to new account	18,356.95

Tls. 193,356.95

In accordance with the Articles of Association Mr. G. Galles retires, but being eligible, offers himself for re-election.

The accounts have been audited by Messrs. Geo. R. Corner and W. H. Anderson, who also offer themselves for re-election.

WORKING ACCOUNT.

1st July, 1896.	Dr.	Tls.
To stock on hand and unfinished work	324,266.98	
30th June, 1897.		
To goods imported during the year, coal and sundry purchases	389,606.52	
To labour, salaries, wages, general trade expenses	292,390.49	
To taxes paid during the year	1,740.08	
To fire insurance	1,021.36	
To rent of China Merchants' property	3,000.00	
To directors', auditors', and Hongkong agency fees	2,700.00	
To balance to profit and loss account	180,318.92	
		Tls. 1,195,044.85

30th June, 1897.	Cr.	Tls.
By gross earnings during the year	886,361.21	
By interest, dividends, and profit on 1st voyage of four-masted bark <i>Drumellan</i>	8,701.99	
By rents from Chinese Broadway property, less taxes, insurance, and repairs	2,811.75	
By transfer fees	108.82	
By unfinished work and outstanding bills, less liabilities	13,186.99	
By stock on hand	283,874.09	
		Tls. 1,195,044.85

PROFIT AND LOSS ACCOUNT.

30th June, 1897.	Tls.
To balance	193,356.95
	Tls. 193,356.95

1st July, 1896.	Tls.
By balance carried forward	13,038.03
30th June, 1897.	
By transfer from working account	180,318.92
	Tls. 193,356.95

BALANCE SHEET.
CAPITAL ACCOUNT.

30th June, 1897.	ASSETS.	Sls.
To "Tunkadoo" and "Lower" Dock properties with buildings, pumping gear, etc., land and buildings in Hongkew		309,000.00
To machinery at three docks, electric light plant, etc., etc.		179,955.78
To launches, piledrivers, pontoons shears, steamdredger, wrecking gear, office and drawing office materials, furniture, etc., etc.		61,460.00
To stock of moulders, fitters, copper-smiths, boilermakers, carpenters, and dock tools at 3 docks		28,034.22
To old dock property (16m. 5f. 2l. 5h.) with boiler, pumps, buoy, etc.		150,000.00
To property with Chinese houses in Broadway (4m. 7f. 1l. 6h.)		32,000.00
To new land near Lower Dock (107m. 5f. 1l. 6h.)		29,598.04
To shares in public companies and cost of four-masted bark <i>Drunel an</i>		56,636.03
To stock of material on hand, unfinished work and outstanding bills less liabilities.		297,061.08
To sundry debtors		19,203.29
To cash in hand		703.62
To Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corp.		16,915.17
To do. amount since received		43,442.43
	Tls. 1,224,059.66	

30th June, 1897.	LIABILITIES.	Tls.
By shareholders for paid-up capital, 7,500 shares at Tls. 100		750,000.00
By reserve fund		200,000.00
By depreciation and maintenance fund		50,000.00
By sundry creditors		30,702.71
By balance from profit and loss account		193,356.95
	Tls. 1,224,059.66	

KAUB.

The Acting Mining Manager's Report for the four weeks ending 19th August, 1897:—

Raub Hole No. 2 Shaft 220 ft. level.—At the date of my last report we were cross-cutting east and west from the south end of the main drive with the object of cutting the ore shoot. The cross-cut was driven a total distance of 15 ft. in clean country with no signs of quartz, and the east crosscut a total distance of 25 ft. In this we cut several small leaders but no gold could be seen in any of them. I have stopped both cross-cuts for the present.

Stopes.—In the leading stope over the back of the main south drive the lode is about 8 in. thick of very low grade ore. In stopes above this the lode increases in size and will average 15 in. of very fair ore. In the stopes north from the No. 2 winze the lode will average 12 in. thick of very fair stone. As we rise on this block of ground north from the No. 2 winze the lode improves in size and quality.

Main West Cross-cut.—Here we passed through what appears to be a bunch of quartz or a lode formation. It is very much split up and mixed with slate, no gold could be seen in it. I have commenced to open out on this to ascertain its value.

North Drive.—On lode formation the quartz in this drive has slightly increased in size, being now about 6 in. thick, but does not as yet carry any gold. This drive has been extended 17 feet making a total distance of 211 feet.

Bukit Komau No. 1 Level north.—The lode in the face is a little smaller, being about 6 feet thick. Is not quite so solid as it was, but still carries fair gold. This drive has been extended 14th feet, making a total distance north from the main crosscut of 482 feet. The leaders on the west side of the lode are not quite so large as they were, but still carry fair gold.

South Drive.—There is a small bunch of quartz making from the bottom of the face. It is too early yet to say what it is; I am in hopes of it being a new make of quartz, as all previous makes or charges have come in on the bottom of the drive as this is doing. This drive has been extended 13 feet, making a total distance south from the main crosscut of 655 feet. A crosscut has been put in east from the end of this drive a distance of 7 feet in clean country all the way with no signs of

quartz in it. I shall continue this a few feet further and if we do not cut any quartz will come back and open out west from the main level.

Stopes.—In the Leading Stope coming in over the back of this drive the leaders still carry fair gold, but have gone almost out on the top of the stope leaving the face of the stope almost all mullock. I have stopped this for the present as it can be worked to better advantage from the No. 2 stope when it is extended this distance.

In the No. 2 Stope the lode pinched very small, but is now making larger again, being about 7 feet wide of good solid ore which carries very good gold. The best gold in the mine is being got from here.

No. 3 Stope.—There is a large body of ore here, the lode being fully 11 feet wide. It has been rather poor lately, but appears to be improving as it goes south towards the No. 2 stope.

Winze.—(No. 1 south). This is now down a total depth of 73 feet. There is very little quartz in the bottom as this is sunk on the footwall of the lode which is rather broken up at this particular part; the main lode being further to the east on the hanging wall.

No. 3 South Air Shaft.—Is now sunk and timbered a total depth of 131 feet. In sinking this air shaft we have cut some very nice gold; at present, however, the bottom is all mullock, as the shaft has cut through the lode and is going down on the footwall, where it is easier sinking.

No. 4 South Air Shaft.—This is being sunk about 200 feet south from the No. 3 air shaft and with the same object, viz., to ventilate and get timber and mullock into the stopes. It is now sunk and timbered to a depth of over 81 ft. We have cut some leaders in this shaft, but are not yet deep enough to cut the main lode.

No. 2 Level South Drive.—The good gold already reported still continues on the east side of the lode, which is about 12 ft. wide. This good gold does not extend all across the lode but appears to be confined to about 2 ft. 6 in. on the east side. Gold can occasionally be seen in the rest of the lode as it is being broken. This drive is now in a total distance of 200 ft. from the main crosscut.

North Drive.—The lode in the face of the drive has pinched to about 6½ ft. of low grade ore. There appears to be a new make of stone coming in on the west side of the lode, which may be of better quality.

Bukit Jellis (Besar).—This engine shaft is now sunk and timbered to a depth of over 55 feet; good progress is being made with this work as the country is very favourable for sinking, the shaft up to now being dry. The adit to carry off the water from the pump has been driven a distance of 101 feet, where we holed through to the shaft at a depth of 47 feet. This adit is 7 ft. by 4 ft. by 3 ft. in the clear, timbered and lined with sawn timber.

A cart road is being made from the railway to the shaft to get up machinery, boilers, and firewood; this road is almost completed. A site for boilers, &c., has been excavated, and a start made to get the machinery erected in anticipation of us cutting water in the shaft. I am in hopes of having a good mine here, as we got good gold in our prospecting shaft. In the tunnel driven on the course of the lode, and on surface when cutting the cart road, we got some nice colours of gold.

Battery.—On Monday the 8th inst., we had a rough clean up when 1,263 tons stone yielded 2,066 oz. amalgam. We took advantage of the stoppage to clean up to remove No. 4 battery box (which had caused a stoppage during the month), overhaul it and the foundation logs. Had the whole thing completed and battery started by 10 p.m. the same evening.

Electric Installation.—A start has been made to clear flume, pipe line, and cable track. The weather has been very unfavourable, there being heavy rains almost daily, which greatly hinders all jungle work.

General.—The health of the camp has improved a little, but there are still cases of sickness amongst the Europeans and coolies.

GILBERT B. WHITE.

Acting Mining Manager.

THE LOSS OF THE "CHEANG HYE TING."

TERRIBLE TALE OF THE SEA.

Shanghai, 20th August.

Amongst the passengers who arrived this morning from Ningpo by the steamer *Pekin* were the third engineer, nine of the crew, and one passenger of the steamer *Cheang Hye Ting*, which was lost in a typhoon on the 10th inst., when about 350 miles south of Moji, Japan. These eleven men, the only survivors of the thirty-two all told on board the steamer when she foundered, arrived in Ningpo on Sunday last in a junk, by which they had been sighted and picked up on the 15th inst., after four-and-a-half days spent in an open boat with absolutely nothing to eat or drink. Of their treatment on board the junk the men have nothing to complain, but they state that when they arrived at Ningpo they were detained for a whole day on board, probably with the object of obtaining remuneration. Next day, however, they succeeded in effecting a landing, and embarked on the *Pekin* yesterday. They were at the Shipping Office of H.B.M.'s Consulate General this morning, where a statement was made before Vice-Consul Fitzipios. The men look well enough, as though they had not passed through a terrible ordeal, with the exception of the engineer, who bears signs of hardship, and one of his feet is injured, whilst he wears only a pair of Japanese sandals. His name is Frank Collins, and he is only eighteen years of age; the remainder of those saved consist of four Japanese, four Malays, and two Chinese.

According to the story given by Mr. Collins, the *Cheang Hye Ting*, Capt. Scott, left Moji on the 6th inst., bound for Hongkong with coals, and soon after leaving port ran into a typhoon, which gradually increased in fury as they proceeded, until on Tuesday, the 10th inst., her fires were put out by the waves and she became unmanageable, with six feet of water in the engine room; nothing could be done, and towards the close of the afternoon the Captain, for reasons unknown, but probably traceable to the disaster, shot himself. The end being evidently close at hand, the crew stocked the lifeboat with provisions, but in attempting to lower it, it was smashed and everything washed away. Not long afterwards the ship foundered, and at the last moment the long boat was cleared away and floated as the steamer sank from beneath it, the chief mate, a foreigner, the chief and second engineers, and the remainder of the crew going down with the ship. The eleven men in the open boat, with not a morsel of food nor a drop to drink, and with not an oar, sail or spar of any description, were left alone. They succeeded after a time in securing two oars, but these could avail nothing in the typhoon, and for four-and-a-half days, as mentioned, they drifted round in a wide circle until, happy to relate, they were picked up by the junk.

The lost steamer was the property of the Chinese firm of Khoo Soh Pek, of Penang, where she was registered in 1895. She was an iron screw ship, 244 ft. in length, 32 ft. in breadth, and depth 24 ft., having a gross tonnage of 1,436, and 170 h.p., and was built at Kelvinhaugh in 1870.—*Mercury*.

An inquiry was opened at H.B.M.'s Consulate on the 27th August, before Lieut.-Commander Chadwick, of H.M.S. *Esk*, President, Mr. G. D. Fitzipios, Vice-Consul, and Captain F. N. Tillard, of the *Rosetta*, Assessors, with Dr. Stevens, H.M.S. *Esk*, Clerk of the Court, into the circumstances attending the loss of the steamer *Cheang Hye Ting*.

Frank Collins, third engineer of the *Cheang Hye Ting*, was called and sworn. He said—The *Cheang Hye Ting* left Moji at noon on the 6th August, and on the evening of the 8th it began to blow hard, from what direction I do not know. On the 9th the cargo shifted and the ship took a list to starboard, and on the following day all hands were employed in trying to trim her. The weather became worse and worse. I was in the engine room from eight to twelve on the morning of the 10th, working the engines. The covers of the bunkers were washed away, and the bunker hatches were covered with canvas, but water still poured down into them. The fires were put out and there were

six feet of water in the engine room; the engineers accordingly left the engine room and closed it up. We went up on deck and washed ourselves and after that we went over to the life-boat, but that was broken, as were all the boats but one. This was in the afternoon. The ship went down soon afterwards, and myself and ten of the men managed to cut away the boat from the deck, and got into her. I do not know the tonnage of the *Cheang Hye Ting*. (Lloyd's register produced and net tonnage found to be 923 and gross tonnage 1,436). There was no coal on the upper deck. I do not know what the steamer was drawing when we left port, but she was very deep. Our best speed was six knots an hour, and we were steaming at that rate. I knew her speed from the second engineer, who told me. The engines stopped on the morning of the 10th, on account of the impossibility of getting up steam. The engines were stopped the day previous by order from the bridge. We first shipped water on the morning of the 9th, and the pumps were started that same night. There were about two feet of water on the starboard side (on which the list was) of the engine-room, when we started pumping. The bunker covers were made of iron.

By Captain Tillard—The deck crew consisted of six hands, and there were three engineers and three Chinese in the engine room. When we tried to right the ship all hands were working at it. I last saw the captain one hour before the ship went down, in his cabin. There had been no trouble on board at all. I saw the captain's body in the lifeboat, and the Japanese say he shot himself in his berth and they carried him to the lifeboat. The water got into the ship by the companion way near No. 3 hatch.

By the President—The captain was shot through the temple. I did not see the wound myself, but the quartermaster told me so. I did not see a revolver in the boat. I heard about the Captain afterwards. I heard no shot. I did not see the ship going down. The fires went out on the morning of the 10th and at four o'clock that afternoon she went down.

Okamoto Tomozo, a Japanese, whose evidence was interpreted, said that on the 6th August the *Cheang Hye Ting* left Moji, and steered westward, passing Kinshin on the port hand at about six o'clock on the morning of the 7th. The course was then altered to S.S.W. There was an easterly wind, and fine weather. On the morning of the 9th it began to be rough, the wind still being E., and at twelve o'clock it began to rain. At eight o'clock on the morning of the 10th the wind blew very heavily from S.S.W., and the steamer could make no headway. The engines also stopped. The cargo shifted and all hands, with the exception of the chief mate and captain, went below to work at it, but did not succeed in righting it. This was at about twelve o'clock. The barometer was 29.30. The starboard boats were smashed and swept away at about two o'clock, and after two o'clock Nos. 5 and 6 boats were swept away, leaving Nos. 2 and 4 boats. The survivors got off in the No. 2 boat, but witness was not sure what became of No. 4 boat. The bunker covers were washed away and the bunkers were covered with canvas. Attempts were made to prevent the water from getting into the ship, but were ineffectual. At forty minutes past three the crew and passengers got into the No. 2 and 4 boats. The Captain was then in the chart room but was afterwards found dead in his cabin. Four men carried him to a boat, and tied him in, but the boat went down immediately. No one was drowned then. The steamer itself went down soon after, both the No. 2 and No. 4 boats being capsized. Witness did not see the chief mate. The two boats were righted again and all those who were in the No. 4 boat went over to the No. 2 boat. Witness did not see the chief engineer. Two oars were obtained from the No. 4 boat, and four men were picked up from the water. The survivors drifted till the morning of the 11th, when the wind shifted. On the same day they sighted a four-masted sailing-ship, and also a steamer. They signalled to the vessels, but without success. On the night of the 11th the wind veered to S. They drifted until the morning of the 14th at 8 o'clock, when they were picked up by

a Chinese junk, on board of which they were nine days.

The Court then adjourned and further evidence was taken at subsequent sittings.

THE FINDING OF THE COURT OF INQUIRY.

The following is the finding of the Court of Inquiry held at Shanghai with reference to the loss of the steamer *Cheang Hye Ting*:—That the *Cheang Hye Ting* foundered in a typhoon, foundering being due to the ship becoming unmanageable owing to her cargo shifting and her fires being put out by water which found its way into the ship through the coal shoots, the tops of which had been washed away in the heavy sea; and through No. 2 ventilator, which had been also carried away. It appears that endeavours were made to upright the ship by trimming the coal and to keep out the water by covering the coal shoots with canvas. The ship appears to have been well found in life-saving apparatus, and all precautions appear to have been taken for saving life. The captain appears to have met with his death by a shot wound in the head, but how inflicted there is no evidence to show. Owing to all responsible European officers having been lost, there is no reliable evidence to show what state of efficiency the ship was in, whether she was properly laden on leaving Moji, or what precautions (if any) were taken to avoid the typhoon previous to the fires being put out.

THE INTER-COLONIAL RIFLE MATCH.

Singapore having suggested to Hongkong and Shanghai dates at the beginning of October as possibly suitable for the annual rifle match between these places, it is found that the period during which the match will have to be fired will be necessarily put later to suit Shanghai.

Hongkong replied on the 27th August:—"Agree [to Singapore's suggested dates] but prefer match ten days later. No answer yet Shanghai" (Hongkong had written to Shanghai).

Shanghai replied on the 28th—"Impossible shoot before November. Range closed at present. Leave you and Hongkong to settle dates."

Singapore will now suggest to Hongkong and Shanghai as the most convenient date—30th October (a Saturday) to 14th November (a Sunday); that is to say a fortnight, including an initial Saturday and a terminal Sunday.—*Singapore Free Press*.

MACAO.

[FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.]

Macao, 2nd September.

The particulars of the attempted escape of nine prisoners from the Public Gaol on Friday last you have already published. The men were all under sentence to be deported to Africa. Such frequent attempts at escape, some of which have proved successful, though happily the present one was frustrated, show that both the Public Gaol and the Monte Fort Gaol are unsuitable for the purpose, and a new and properly constructed gaol ought to have been provided long ago.

It is rare for a Chinaman to cut off his queue, but last Sunday the Chief Justice and the Attorney-General visited the gaol and what was their surprise on finding all the prisoners without queues. Enquiries were made as to the reason, but no explanation was forthcoming. It is supposed that they had sworn brotherhood and that the cutting of the tails was part of the bond. As this took place on the night after the attempt of the nine prisoners to escape no doubt it had some connection with that affair. It shows that severe discipline is required and that the present lax system is attended with grave danger. Some of the men in gaol are better off than they would be in their own homes. The Government spends large sums of money every year to maintain these gentry and they are not required to give any useful labour in return. This is not the way that men who have committed crimes should be treated.

On Monday last a Chinese woman employed at the house of a Chinaman named Lucau was stabbed in the street by her husband. Some time ago the husband was left without employ-

ment and the woman then obtained a situation and on the small pay she got supported her husband and herself. A week ago the man again found work and did not wish his wife to continue any longer in Lucau's service. He asked her to return home but she declined. The man then said that if she did not come he would kill her. She thought he was joking and took no notice, but on Monday last he saw her and again asked her to come back, and on her refusal he drew a razor and inflicted a severe cut under the right ribs. The woman was removed to the Civil Hospital. The man up to the present has not been arrested.

O Independent is to be published on Sunday next. Mr. José da Silva is the chief editor. The reappearance of this newspaper will supply many people here with the means of defending themselves against the criticisms published in the other papers, and I must congratulate Mr. da Silva on having conceived the idea of opening another channel of public discussion.

Three steps have now been placed in the Travessa do P. Narciso to prevent the passage of jinrickshas. What is now required is to order a door to be placed there, because foot-passengers going through the street at night might also disturb the slumber of the inhabitants. Or better still, a member of the Leal Senado might go on guard there every evening.

CANTON NOTES.

[FROM THE "CHUNG NGOI SAN PO."]

Two weeks ago a great fight broke out between two clans named Chan and Ko, in Lukfung district, in the prefecture of Waichow, and great slaughter took place. Over fifty men belonging to the clan of Ko were killed. This clan reported the case to the Lukfung Magistrate, who went in person with a number of police to stop the fight and compel the people of Chan to surrender all the murderers, but the clan not only disregarded the command of the Magistrate, but fired at the police and prevented their approaching the village. The Magistrate telegraphed to Canton for assistance. Last week Colonel Cheng Yun-tsoi with a large force was sent to the district in question. It is said arrangements have been made by the Colonel with the combatants to square the thing.

Heavy rains have been reported in the district of Shihing and most of the new crops have been badly damaged. The Toatai, the Prefect, and the local Magistrate prayed for fine weather some days ago and the slaughter of cattle was prohibited.

The two examiners appointed by the Peking Government for the examination for the degree of Ku-yen in Canton arrived on the 28th ultimo and on the 2nd instant they removed to the Examination Hall. The examination is to commence on the 5th instant and will be ended on the 10th instant.

The Lekin Office has issued a notice prohibiting the exportation of rice from Canton. It was to come into force on the 23rd ultimo. If the regulation is violated the smuggled rice will be confiscated and the offender is to be severely dealt with.

The Commissioner of Customs has issued a notice giving warning to the letter-carriers who have been reported to smuggle letters. They are warned that if they are discovered smuggling letters in future their licences will be withdrawn.

A woman was brought before the Provincial Judge the other day for murder. The charge was that she one day, after a quarrel with her husband, put some poison into the food, which caused the death of her grandfather, who had taken the food. Her husband, who had also taken the poisoned food, recovered. She pleaded guilty, but as she is pregnant she is not to be executed till she has given birth to her child, which event, it is said, will take place in three or four months. She is now locked up in the Namhoi prison.

The hearing of the Bennertz case was concluded at Shanghai on the 26th August, judgment being reserved. The Court began its labours on the 30th of June, and has sat on thirty-three days.

HONGKONG.

The inquiry into the police scandal continues to meander slowly and secretly along, and the public are kept wholly in the dark as to the relative guilt or even the probable innocence of the condemned officers. Inspector Stanton, the chief of the Detective Force, has been dismissed for not reporting a gambling house and several other officers are also accused of complicity in the affair. Nothing was said by anybody about the matter at the meeting of the Legislative Council, which was held on Monday. Last Friday and Saturday the annual aquatic sports promoted by the Victoria Recreation Club were held and proved a great success. The Sanitary Board met on Friday, the chief business being the passing of a resolution relating to an important by-law.

Inspector Hanson has been appointed Acting Chief Inspector of Police.

There were 2,049 visitors to the City Hall Museum last week, of whom 194 were Europeans.

Dr. Keays, R.N., and Mrs. Keays left on 2nd Sept. for England via America by the *Doric*. Dr. Keays's relief is on the way out.

The 24th December is, we hear, the date fixed for the embarkation of the West Yorkshire Regiment and the Royal Artillery for Singapore.

The appointment of Inspector A. Mackie to be Acting Deputy Superintendent of Police and Assistant Superintendent of the Fire Brigade is gazetted.

About twenty minutes to five on the afternoon of the 3rd Sept. an alarm of fire was given. The brigade turned out to find that only a chimney had caught fire in Upper Lascar Row.

Four boatmen in the service of the Government conservancy contractor were each fined \$25 at the Police Court on 1st Sept. for dumping rubbish in the harbour instead of taking it to the mainland.

We have received the following from Messrs. Jardine, Matheson & Co.:—Messrs. McGregor, Gow & Co. inform us that the *Glengyle* returns to London from Gibraltar this week and that her cargo is partially damaged.

The O.S.S. Co.'s *Glaucus* made the passage from Liverpool to Singapore in under 26 days, her times being these: Liverpool to Port Said, 9 days 19 hours 50 min., Suez to Singapore 15 days 12 hours 58 min. The passage from Singapore to Hongkong was made in five days.

Amongst the passengers who arrived by the *Ravenna* on 5th Sept. was Mr. Gompertz, from Singapore, who has been transferred from the Straits Settlements Service to Hongkong to take up the appointment of Assistant Registrar-General. Mrs. Gompertz accompanies her husband.

The piece of ground which has recently been added to the Wongneichong recreation ground is now being turfed; indeed, the work is almost finished and the ground looks exceedingly well. Many applications have been received from clubs desiring to use the ground, but as yet no allotment has taken place. It is probable that the ground will not be ready for use until about November.

Intelligence was received on 31st Aug. from Nagasaki of the death of Mr. Samuel Barff, who retired from the Hongkong Civil Service on pension two years ago. Mr. Barff was appointed Assistant Postmaster-General in 1868, and was afterwards transferred to the Registry of the Supreme Court, being at the time of his retirement Accountant and Deputy Registrar. The deceased gentleman was sixty-eight years of age. He leaves a widow and three sons.

About 1.20 on Saturday, 5th Sept. the Fire Brigade was called to extinguish a fire which had broken out in the upper storey of No. 16, Tung Loy Lane, which is a three-storied building occupied by a dealer in earthenware. A quantity of straw and packing cases were fully ablaze in a very short time and the flames spread so rapidly that No. 18, a rice godown, was attacked, but the damage was principally confined to No. 16, the contents of which were totally destroyed. The loss was covered by insurance. The contents of No. 16 were insured in the Miike Insurance Co., for \$10,000, and the contents of No. 18 with Messrs. Siemssen & Co., for \$8,000.

Among the passengers who left by the *Empress of India* on 1st Sept. for the North were Major-General and Mrs. Wilson Black and Miss Black. General Black, we believe, intends to visit the Yangtze and Northern ports. During the General's absence Colonel Elsdale, R.E., is in command of the Garrison.

It is with much regret we (*Kobe Herald*) announce that Captain H. Sommers, of the China Mutual liner *Oopack*, was seized with a paralytic stroke while visiting Captain Kemp on board the *Moyune* this forenoon (26th August), and is now dangerously ill. The sufferer has been taken to the International Hospital.

Messrs. John D. Humphreys & Son, the General Managers of Oliver's Freehold Mines, Limited, inform us that they on 6th Sept. received the following telegram from the mines:—"The Eureka Mine, have opened up a fine body of ore at the bottom of the shaft, gold is visible throughout, width not yet determined."

It is notified that in consequence of a recent forgery the present issue of Hongkong one dollar stamps has been declared obsolete after one week from the date of the notification (6th September) and their sale has been stopped. Money or other stamps will be given in exchange for such stamps up to the 31st December next.

The hammer of the fire bell was vigorously active at five o'clock on Tuesday morning, but the firemen who were called out by the ringing summons had practically nothing to do. A few crackers had caught fire in a shop in Wellington Street. Their alarmingsplutterings were soon over and the assistance of the firemen was not really wanted.

The following telegram was received by H.E. the Governor on 2nd Sept. from H.M. (Chargé d'Affaires, Tokyo):—"Referring to telegram of 8th June, medical inspection ceased." The telegram of 8th June was as follows:—"Medical inspection enforced from June 7 against vessels from Formosa, Shanghai, and other Chinese ports to the south."

The Magistrate deservedly complimented P.C. Cameron on 3rd Sept. The case in which he was concerned was in respect of a charge of theft preferred against a Chinaman of the idling fraternity. About four o'clock on Friday morning the prisoner was making rapid strides for Chinese territory when P.C. Cameron overtook him and searched him, finding upon him a silver watch, a brass chain, a gold locket, with a silver coin attached, and a water pipe. The constable rightly thought that the man had not come by these things honestly and he was taken to Yanmat Police Station. Inquiries showed that all the articles, with the exception of the water-pipe, had been stolen from Colonel Faithful's residence, while a pair of shoes the prisoner was wearing had been stolen from the servants' quarters of Major Retallick. A clock had also been stolen from Major Retallick's servants' quarters, but this was not recovered. In the face of this overwhelming proof the prisoner did not have the audacity to deny the charge and he was sent to gaol for six months with hard labour. P.C. Cameron well deserved the compliment paid to him by His Worship.

In the course of removing the stones of the old Praya wall in front of the P. and O. Office a foul condition of affairs in connection with the storm water drain that formerly discharged at that point has been disclosed. Some time ago the drain was closed by the Public Works Department and it was supposed that all sewers that formerly discharged into it had been diverted. It would appear that this was not the case, for on opening up the ground for the removal of the old Praya wall it was found that sewage had been running through the drain and being unable to escape through the closed mouth had worked a channel for itself east and west behind the wall, making an abominable elongated cess-pool. Coolies were busy all day on 3rd Sept. carrying away the slush in buckets and another day's work will probably be required to clear the trench. A hoarding had been erected along the trench, so that the operations going on were not visible to passers by, but the smell could not fail to attract notice. It seems to have been a case of the celebrated Bonham Strand drain over again. It is no wonder that cases of sickness have occurred in the neighbourhood.

Amongst the items in the Supplementary Appropriation Ordinance read a first time at Monday's meeting of the Legislative Council is one of \$223.19 under the heading of "Governor and Legislature," which in the explanatory remarks accompanying the estimates is described as "Increase caused by expenses incurred in connection with the luncheon in honour of H.E. Hi Hung-chang." This is the luncheon that Li would not land to eat.

The Secretary of the Panjom Mining Co. Limited, advises us that he has received the following telegram giving the result of the August clean-up:—"The mill ran 29 days crushing 336 tons of ore yielding 84 ozs. of smelted gold. 2,250 tons of headings crushed, yielding 145 oz. of gold. Thirty-five tons of concentrates calcined for a yield of 23 ozs. The cyanide plant ran 28 days treating 850 tons of tailings for a yield of 305 ozs. of bullion valued at 19/- per oz."

For an instance of dowdriht impudence commend us to a case heard at the Supreme Court on 3rd Sept. in which a houseboy sued his master for a month's wages in lieu of notice. The defendant was Mr. Carlsen, supervisor of the Telegraph Companies, and he explained that one morning at the beginning of last month he missed two \$5 notes from his dressing table. He asked the boy to account for the missing notes, but of course the varlet knew nothing about the matter until he was threatened with the Police, when he fished the money from a pair of boots. Mr. Carlsen took no notice of this little incident, but on the 23rd August he purposely left a wallet containing a \$1 note on his dressing table. He went out and on returning found the letter case there, but the dollar note was absent. The boy again assured his master that he knew nothing about the matter but, curiously enough, the servant "found" the note some time afterwards on the dressing table. He was then discharged at a moment's notice. On 3rd Sept. he had the impudence to sue his employer for \$8, a month's wages. Mr. Justice Wise told the complainant he ought to consider himself lucky he was not serving six months' imprisonment. The case was dismissed.

At the request of His Excellency the Governor an Indian constable and a Chinese constable gave an account of their visit to London to take part in the Diamond Jubilee celebrations. The reports, the defects in composition notwithstanding, are interesting. The Indian constable wrote that he and his companions were struck with the kind treatment they received at the hands of all classes of people. "We were invited to theatres and supplied with refreshments and nothing could induce these kind-hearted people to receive money. . . . The ladies of the place were so civil and kind that it is beyond our power to express our feeling. Generally speaking, the manner, habit, and custom of that country's people are so much superior to our uncivilized countries people in the East, that it is almost impossible to describe. The climate is beautiful there, no such hot weather as in our own country; the water from the tap comes out as if it had been iced here." He also mentions that they saw the Queen on several occasions. "At Windsor," he adds, "we were invited to tiffin, gentlemen and officers who had been in India speaking Hindustani and serving us with their own hands making us as comfortable as possible; one would have thought that he was in Heaven." The Chinese constable also speaks very favourably of the visit to England. "On the 27th or 28th we went to Windsor and were set down to tiffin of beef and bread and potatoes and beer and lemonade. Afterwards we were paraded and marched past the Queen who afterwards drove down the line in her pony carriage. One man of each section was then chosen and presented to Her Majesty. I was to represent the Chinese and the Prince of Wales instructed me how to answer the Queen's questions and I with others was then presented to the Queen who asked who I was and where I came from. Lord Roberts explained to Her Majesty what my medal was. I saluted and retired." He also notes the fact that "Our bamboo hats were objects of great curiosity to the people, who said they had never seen anything of the kind."

Miss McIntosh (Sister Catherine), of the Civil Hospital nursing staff, who volunteered, while at home on leave, for plague service in India, returned to Hongkong on 1st Sept. by the *Catherine Apcar* from Calcutta.

A godown at 206, Praya West was broken into the other day and vermicelli of the value of \$46 was stolen. Information of the robbery was given to the police and on Monday a Chinese Constable found the stolen property in a shop in New Street. The shopkeeper was arrested for having it in his unlawful possession and on 31st August he was taken before the Magistrate and remanded.

A little boy, whose hair was closely cropped and whose head did not reach the rail of the dock, was charged at the Magistracy on 3rd Sept. with escaping from the reformatory school. The boy was arrested by a Chinese detective and taken direct to the Police Station. In answer to his Worship the director of the School said he did not desire the boy to be taken before the Court. Thereupon the Magistrate said the boy was not before him. In cases of escape from a reformatory the detective making the arrest must, before bringing the boy in front of the Magistrate, find out from the managers of the school whether it was their wish to have the boy charged. The boy was therefore allowed to go.

The Government conservancy contractor should really exercise a better supervision over his boatmen. Lately there have been numerous complaints of rubbish from dust boats being dumped into the harbour between Green Island and Stonecutter's Island, and the water police have had considerable difficulty in detecting the offenders inasmuch as the boatmen never resorted to the objectionable practice while a police pinnace was in sight. The police have now adopted a new move, which proved highly successful on Thursday. Police Sergeant Graham disguised himself and took a private launch, and from this he saw four men busily engaged in throwing rubbish into the harbour. On 3rd Sept. these men were taken before Hon. H. E. Wodehouse. One of them was fined \$50 and the three others \$25 each.

The *Sydney Morning Herald* of the 6th August says:—"The *Guthrie*, due to sail for Hongkong in about a fortnight, is to take a small tentative shipment of about 40 carcasses of frozen mutton for that port and Japan. A few carcasses will be left at Hongkong, and the remainder transhipped to Kobe, where there is a refrigerating chamber. The *Guthrie* has not the capacity for any large quantity, but should anything come of the trade no doubt arrangements could be made in the direction of fitting up the vessels calling at Eastern ports with the necessary appliances. The *Sugami Maru* is to take five tons of assorted preserved meats to Nagasaki. Messrs. Ford, Ruthven, and Co. are the shippers in both instances." We understand that the carcasses for Hongkong, ten in number, are consigned to the care of Messrs. Lane, Crawford & Co.

An interesting case to employers and workmen was heard at the Magistracy on 2nd Sept. The director of a journeyman tailors' guild was charged with having, by means of threats, induced workmen to leave their employer's service. Some time ago the guild issued a notice calling upon masters to employ not more than two apprentices at one time. In the present case the master had four apprentices in his employ and the workmen were asked to cease working until the number of apprentices was reduced, under pain of being beaten. The result was that the workmen left. Mr. Mounsey, maintained that a body of men in a guild or union had a legitimate right to issue such a circular and to lay down certain rules and market prices. If the complainant had a cause for action he should have taken proceedings in the Supreme Court, as trade unions were perfectly legal. In regard to the threats it was not suggested by the defendant that the men would be beaten. His Worship said guilds were perfectly legal, but they had to confine themselves to certain limits. They had no right to resort to violence or threats of violence, and it would be impossible for a man to properly carry on his business if he had to submit to every rule passed by a guild. The defendant would have to go to gaol for six weeks with hard labour.

A sampan owner was on 1st Sept. fined \$50 for conveying a quantity of gunpowder and dynamite in his boat. Inspector Hanson, who was in charge of the case, said that the stuff was taken delivery of at the gunpowder depot, and at the present time the exportation of gunpowder was prohibited.

At the Police Court on 31st Aug. the Secretary of the Hongkong and Kowloon Wharf and Godown Company, Limited, was fined \$10 for obstructing the thoroughfare in front of the Company's godown. The obstruction was caused by logs of wood being placed across the roadway.

H.E. the Governor has given his assent, in the name and on behalf of the Queen to the following Ordinances passed by the Legislative Council:—An Ordinance to further amend the Medical Registration Ordinance, 1884, and to repeal Ordinance No. 1 of 1897, An Ordinance to amend the Widows and Orphans Pensions Ordinance, An Ordinance for the Naturalization of Ho Mui Sz alias Ho Lin Shing, and An Ordinance to further amend the Prepared Opium Ordinance, 1890.

The ricksha coolies at Kowloon are occasionally too demonstrative in their demands for excessive fares. Two of them fell into a trap on Monday night. One of Inspector Butlin's lunkos and his friends took rickshas and at the end of the journey the coolies, not knowing how very near they were to danger, demanded 10 cents, whereas the proper fare was 5 cents. The coolies repeated their demands and the lunko put them both into the Yau-mati Police Station. At the Police Court on Tuesday each defendant was fined \$1.

MISCELLANEOUS.

Plague is reported to be rapidly decreasing at Amoy and it is expected that clean bills of health will shortly be issued.

A Portuguese clerk in Messrs. Reis & Co.'s employ at Shanghai, named V. B. de Souza, has been charged before his Consul with the embezzlement from his employers of the sum of Tls. 10,000, and has been committed to H.B.M.'s gaol—by consent of the British Consul—until he can be sent to Macao for trial.

Over 300 disbanded soldiery, on their way to their homes in Hupeh province, passed through Kinkiang on the 20th ultimo escorted by native gunboats. When the party had arrived at Lu-chiatsuk, a town on the borders of Hupeh and Kiangsi provinces, the soldiers suddenly attacked the gunboats, bound the officers and crew, and then proceeded to sack the houses in the vicinity. A sub-lieutenant and several sailors who showed resistance were cut down. After looting the neighbourhood, the disbanded soldiers immediately separated, scattering in different directions.—*N. C. Daily News*.

At Shanghai on the 29th August, at about mid-day, when a Chinese sailor of the revenue cruiser *Pingching* was aloft clearing the flag from the mast, he lost his hold and fell on to the awning, from which he rebounded into the river. The man was stunned by the fall and was sinking, when without a moment's hesitation Mr. F. Harris the first officer, who had witnessed the accident, sprang from the deck just as he was, without waiting to divest himself of any of his clothing, and rescued the sailor. This, says the *N. C. Daily News*, was certainly a very plucky act which thoroughly deserves some marked recognition, and we trust steps will be taken to bring the circumstance to the knowledge of the Royal Humane Society.

It is understood that the Samuel Syndicate, which is now about to exploit South Borneo for oil, is prepared to spend a quarter of a million sterling on the work. The European staff numbers 40, of whom 33 are skilled American or Canadian oil prospectors. There are large quantities of boring machinery now on the spot, as well as five miles of metre railway which will be used to take the machinery about the country, as required, the rails in rear being picked up and laid ahead again at a rapid pace as the rolling stock with the machinery and stores is moved on. As mentioned before, the steamer *Crathie*, which unfortunately sank the *Erbe* in collision, is to act as tender to the syndicate, and will run between Kotie and Singapore at intervals.—*Singapore Free Press*.

At the half-yearly general meeting of the Bank of Japan, held at Tokyo on the 21st August, a dividend for the first half of this year was declared at the rate of 13 per cent. per annum.

On the currency crisis the *Straits Observer* says:—"That Japan and India are making a mistake, we feel convinced, if it is the pure question of the development of those countries that alone is considered. That a gold currency in the Straits could not be for the Colony's advantage we think is evident from the progress of these territories since the '50's, when the dollar was 5/1, the '70's when it was 4/2, up to the present day when it is down to 1/9½."

A dreadful explosion took place on the 18th August on a steam launch at Muong Phrom, a day and a half's journey from Bangkok. The steam launch was a Siamese vessel and had only recently had a new boiler put in. There were about twenty people on board at the time, of whom ten were missing altogether after the explosion and six were not expected to recover. The vessel was completely destroyed. She was owned and run by Prince Chairat, who had his wife and child on board with him. The Prince and his wife were both thrown on to a floating house by the force of the explosion and died in a very short time. Their child was picked up at some distance and has recovered. The Bangkok papers comment on the absence of any regulation of the steam launch traffic on the river.

COMMERCIAL.

TEA.

CANTON, 7th September.—Congou—Settlements of these Teas for London during the past fortnight have been about 1,900 boxes at from Tls. 9 to 15 per picul. The low priced teas are of very doubtful quality and can hardly be intended for home consumption. Scented Capers.—The to-night's settlements aggregate about 8,200 boxes at Tls. 9 to 30 per picul, a fair proportion being for shipment on native account. The demand still continues for good common to medium teas, and at the close the market for these grades is somewhat easier, and medium teas have been offered at one tael per picul decline on last week's rates, whilst fine teas are offered at fully 4 taels per picul, drop from the highest point, but without leading to business. Total settlements to date are 134,700 boxes against 119,000 boxes at same date last year. Stocks in native hands are still very small, affording a poor selection should any general demand ring up. Scenting flower is good and cheap. No business is passing in Long 1st Scented Orange Pekoes. Our present estimate of the total export for the season is 4½ million pounds.

SHANGHAI, 3rd September.—From Messrs. Welch, Lewis & Co.'s Circular.—There is said to be a fair demand for third crop Congous at Hankow at from Tls. 11 to 3 a picul or about Tln. 2½ a picul higher than similar Teas were settled at last season. The second crop amounted to 75,000 half-chests, against 61,000 half-chests last season, and it is thought possible that the third crop will reach 50,000 half-chests, against 17,000 half-chests last season. Black Teas.—The quietness reported in our last has continued. Common Teas have fallen about one tael a picul and one sale is reported at Tls. 12½ a picul. Buyers are few at the decline. The finer qualities are more firmly held.

Settlements reported are:—
Ningchow... 2,328 ½-chests at Tls. 15.00 to 24.00 a picul.
Kutsan... 210 " " 10.00 to " "
Wenchow... 67 " " 17.00 to " "
Oomam... 6,890 " " 13.00 to 17.00 " "
Oupak... 170 " " 12.00 to " "

9,674 ½-chests.
Stock, 5,091 ½-chests.

Green Tea.—The market remains much in the same condition as it was at the date of our last reports. Country Teas have received more attention from buyers than Pingsweys. All prices are dangerously high. Probable total supplies are most difficult to estimate even roughly, but judging from the quantity of Country Tea already arrived, from the marked increase in the size of individual crops of second picks from Moyang and Tienkai, and the strong inclination offered by the present splendid tea prices, to bring every available leaf to market, we anticipate the crop will be appreciably larger than it was last season.

and we are inclined to put the probable Total yield of Country Tea and local packs together down as 200,000 half-chests at least, against 175,000 half-chests last season. Pingsuey.—The belief is still that supplies will not exceed 120,000 half-chests, but the men who agreed to limit the quantity are able to break their agreement if sufficient inducement offers. Pingsuey.—We can only repeat our previous report. Tea-men are very firm in their prices and business is somewhat restricted in consequence. Moyune, Tienkai and Fychow call for no special remarks. The brokers' difficulty is not to find buyers, but not to offend one buyer, by selling too quickly to another. Prices appear to advance as exchange goes down, and this cannot be laid down in New York any cheaper now than they could be early in the season. The demand is too brisk to a low stocks to accumulate Hysons.—By each mail we have to record a higher tael price for "choicest" quality. Last mail we wrote Tls. 13 for Tienkai and Tls. 52 for Moyune were extreme prices; during this fortnight Tls. 52 for Tienkai and Tls. 53 for Moyune have been paid, and one small lot of superior make brought Tls. 62 a picul. The demand has run on choicest; common to finest are held for over buyers' ideas. Arrivals to date are 10,000 half-chests larger than they were last season. Foong Mees and Sow Mees dealt in only to a very small extent. Good Moyune Sow Mees are selling in London at 9d. to 10d. a lb. This is a season in which correctly declared figures of Export would be invaluable to the merchant, as they would enable him to see at a glance how the various descriptions (Gunpowder, Imperial, Young Hosen and Hyson) were being distributed. Indications are that the New York market will be over-loaded with Young Hysons, but this cannot be ascertained under the present Duty Pass system.

Settlements reported are:—

	1897.	1896.
Pingsuey.....	11,990	25 to 14
Moyune.....	9,747	23 to 46
Tienkai.....	3,463	20 to 32
Fychow.....	768	18 to 26
Local packed.....		

34,263 1/2-chests

Total settlements from opening of the market to date:—

	Settlements.	Stock.
	1897.	1896.
Pingsuey.....	51,989	40,558
Moyune.....	33,997	2,871
Tienkai.....	32,354	19,150
Fychow.....	11,264	10,196
Local packed.....	12,281	6,320
Total.....	140,975	101,094

EXPORT OF TEA FROM CHINA TO GREAT BRITAIN

	1897-98	1896-97
	lbs.	lbs.
Canton and Macao.....	3,228,419	3,471,987
Shanghai and Hankow.....	9,195,997	14,207,317
Foochow.....	7,358,900	8,323,725
Amoy.....	346,260	379,122
Total.....	20,429,576	26,385,151

EXPORT OF TEA FROM CHINA TO UNITED STATES AND CANADA.

	1897-98	1896-97
	lbs.	lbs.
Shanghai.....	8,211,781	5,959,334
Amoy.....	718,157	6,598,012
Foochow.....	3,631,537	3,637,906
Total.....	19,561,475	16,195,252

EXPORT OF TEA FROM CHINA TO ODESSA.

	1897-98	1896-97
	lbs.	lbs.
Shanghai and Hankow.....	19,338,134	22,544,742

EXPORT OF TEA FROM JAPAN TO UNITED STATES AND CANADA.

	1897-98	1896-97
	lbs.	lbs.
Yokohama.....	18,448,967	15,515,625
Kobe.....	962,782	6,707,867
Total.....	28,131,749	22,223,492

SILK.

CANTON, 29th August.—Tsatlees and Re-reels.—Holders ask considerably higher prices and close very firm. About 100 bales Re-reels Grant

No. 1 have been settled at \$530 and dealers ask now \$550. Filatures.—Have continued in good demand for Lyons. Prices advanced steadily owing to the eagerness on the part of the buyers to operate and to the decline of exchange. From prices paid we quote: \$750 for Mu King Lun and Kwong Lun Cheong 1/13 and 13/15 and Kwong Lun Fung 11/13 \$740 for Chong, Ke 9/11, \$730 for Kwong Wo Hing 13/15, \$720 for a Yun Lun and Lee King Lun 13/15, \$695 for Kum King Lun 10/12, \$691 for Yee Wo Loong 16/20, \$610 for Yee Wo Cheong 18/22 and Wai King Wo 18/22. The subjoined quotations are more or less nominal as dealers take every occasion of forcing prices upwards. Short-reels.—There has been a good demand for America. Waste.—Steam Waste continues in good demand and a large business has been done at hardening prices. Stocks.—Tsatlees, 1,000 bales; Filatures, 400 bales.

SHANGHAI, 3rd September.—(From Messrs. A. R. Burkill & Sons' Circular).—London telegrams quote a "firm make", Gold Krins 90, Blue Elphants, 9/11-12. Raw Silk.—There is no alteration in the closing quotations of last week, all prices are very firm and dealers are disinclined to do business to any extent at the price given below. It is noticeable that whereas arrivals of White Silk to 2nd September, 1896, were but 13,500 bales, we have received to same date this season 28,800 bales. There seems no doubt but that present high tael values will have the effect of drawing down a larger quantity of Silk than appeared to be available in May and June last. Tsatlees.—About 100 bales have been settled on a basis of Tls. 170 for Gold Krins. Taysam.—200 bales have changed hands at folk rates. Yellow Silks.—Are coming down more freely, prices as yet are fully 250 piculs, and prices are well maintained. Arrivals, as per Customs Returns, 26th August to 1st September: 2,177 bales White, 922 piculs Yellow and 218 piculs Wild Silks. Re-reels and Filatures.—Nearly all classes of Hand Filatures, Tsatlees and Hainseens have been in good demand this week. X Reel sorts for America and Ordinary Reels for the Continent. We estimate the total Settlements Steam and Hand Filatures at 900 piculs. Price for X Reel are considerably higher. The Export of team Filatures to date is: to America 1,453 bales, to Continent 1,287 bales, to London 6 bales and to Japan 2 bales. Waste Silk.—A further Settlement of old season's Curries is reported at Tls. 50, otherwise there is no change to report.

Prices calculated by Maerten's tables at 11 per cent; Exchange 2/4; Freight Tls. 6.50 per bale:—

	Tls.	Stg.
	per picul.	per lb.
Tsatlees.—Buffalo 3.....	512 1/2	10 3/8
" Bird Seeding.....	482 1/2	9 8
" Gold Killing.....	400	8 7
" Chay Killing.....	452 1/2	9 1
Hangchow Tsatlees.—Lanhook.....	447 1/2	8 11 1/2
" Lanping.....	427 1/2	8 7
Taysam.—Green Kahing Y. V. C. Chayling.....	442 1/2	8 10 1/2
" 9 br 12 Moss Double Butterfly 1.....	422 1/2	8 8
Skein.—Blue Monster.....	377 1/2	7 7 1/2
" Green.....	377 1/2	7 7 1/2
" Lie Lkins.....	315 a 350	6 5 a 7 1
Yellow Silk.—		
Mienchow.....	347 1/2 a 357 1/2	7 1 1/2 a 7 3
Meeyang.....	360 a 365	7 3 1/2 a 7 4 1/2
Yellow Silk.—		
Fooyung.....	345 a 360	7 1 a 7 3 1/2
Wongyi.....	300 a 312 1/2	6 1 1/2 a 6 4
Wongchow.....	300 a 305	6 1 1/2 a 6 2
Szechong.....	257 1/2 a 262 1/2	5 4 a 5 5
Steam Filature.—		
1st Choice 13 15 den.....		800 15 9
Second.....		785 15 6
Hand Filatures.—		
Mayhenyu X Reel Ex., No. 1 & 2.....	Ave. 630	12 5 1/2
Flying Horse X Reel Ex., No. 1 & 2.....	600	11 10 1/2
Woonan Dong X Reel, 1, 2 & 3.....	630	12 5 1/2
Almond Flower X Reel, 1, 2 & 3.....	600	11 10 1/2
Black Horse Ordv. Reel, 1, 2 & 3.....	570	11 4

EXPORT OF SILK FROM CHINA AND JAPAN TO EUROPE.

	1897-98	1896-97
	bales.	bales.
Shanghai.....	20,984	8,502
Canton.....	7,685	7,617
Yokohama.....	2,044	401
Total.....	30,713	16,510

EXPORT OF SILK FROM CHINA AND JAPAN TO AMERICA.

	1897-98	1896-97
	bales.	bales.
Shanghai.....	2,302	304
Canton.....	3,897	532
Yokohama.....	3,285	449
Total.....	9,484	1,285

AMERICA.

HONGKONG, 8th September.—The market is again weaker. Quotations for Formosa are nominally \$19.50 to \$19.00. Sales, 250 piculs.

SEA.

HONGKONG, 8th September.—Arrivals have been insufficient to meet the demand and prices continue to advance. Quotations are:—

Sackloong, No. 1, White.....	\$7.25 to 7.28	per picul.
do. " 2, White.....	6.75 to 6.78	"
Sackloong, No. 1, Brown.....	4.56 to 4.60	"
do. " 2, Brown.....	4.45 to 4.48	"
Sackloong, No. 1, White.....	7.17 to 7.20	"
do. " 2, White.....	6.67 to 6.70	"
Sackloong, No. 1, Brown.....	4.51 to 4.55	"
do. " 2, Brown.....	4.42 to 4.45	"
Sackloong Sugar.....	11.05 to 11.08	"
Sackloong.....	9.6 to 9.68	"

MISCELLANEOUS EXPORTS.

The Norw. steamer *Frey*, sailed on the 28th August. For New York:—5,973 packages firecrackers, 155 bales cassia, 818 bales cassia, 398 packages merchandise, 342 cases chinaware, 250 boxes camphor, 231 cases blackwoodware, 275 cases Saigon cassia, 148 cases preserves, 140 cases essential oil, 100 boxes cassia lignea, 84 cases bristles, 50 cases cassia buds, 50 cases nut oil, 50 cases ginger, 46 bales galangal, 25 rolls matting, 25 bales beans, 12 cases human hair, 11 cases paper, 11 cases lacquerware, 10 bales bambooware, 10 cases joss stick, 10 bales broken cassia, 6 cases medicine and 1 case gongs.

The steamer *Glenaven*, sailed on the 28th August. For London:—150 cases soy.

The steamer *Saluzie*, sailed on the 1st Sept. For France:—500 bales raw silk, 5 cases silk piece goods, 25 cases bristles, 3 cases feathers, 4 cases jade stone, 8 cases chinaware, 20 packages hair and 1 case frames. For Milan:—20 bales raw silk. For London:—1 case silk piece goods.

The P. & O. steamer *Ceylon*, sailed on the 3rd September. For London and/or Manchester:—100 bales waste silk. For London and/or Antwerp:—40 cases bristles. For London:—2 cases ilang ilang essence from Manila, 1,600 bales hemp, 456 bales canes, 60 bales waste silk, 366 rolls mats, 17 cases chinaware, 26 cases blackwoodware, 5 cases feathers, 5 cases camphorwood trunks, 50 cases bristles, 13 cases cigars, 17 cases pearl shells, 13 cases sundries, 2,167 cases and 150 cases preserves, 10,034 boxes tea (220,192 lbs.). For Liverpool:—100 bales matting. For Glasgow:—1 case blackwoodware and 2 cases preserves. For Manchester:—150 bales waste silk. For Buenos Ayres:—1 case Japanese screens. For Antwerp:—6 cases cigars. For London:—714 packages tea from Amoy.

Per steamer *Prometheus*, sailed on the 4th September. For London:—7,173 boxes tea (156,633 lbs.), 349 1/2-chests tea from Amoy, 230 cases essential oil, 56 cases cigars, 2 cases blackwoodware, 2 cases chinaware, 4 cases fans, 3,950 cases and 700 cases preserves, 250 rolls matting, 500 bales hemp, 22 bales feathers, 239 packages shells, 162 canes, 45 packages groundnuts and 15 packages sundries. For London and/or Manchester:—195 bales waste silk. For Liverpool:—500 bales hemp. For Glasgow:—50 cases ginger and 1 package sundries. For Hamburg:—2 cases cigars. For Rotterdam:—1 case acid and 550 cases ginger. For Buenos Ayres:—300 packages tea.

OPIUM.

HONGKONG, 8th September.—Bengal.—There has been a fair amount of business during the interval and prices have improved. Current quotations are \$740 for both New Patna and New Benares.

Malwa.—The market has been fairly active and prices have advanced. The following are the latest quotations:—

New (this yr's) \$870 with allance of 0 to 0 cts.	
" (last yr's) \$900 " 0 to 2 "	
Old (2/5 ") \$920 " 0 to 1 "	
" (6/9 ") \$940 " 0 to 2 "	

Persia.—Business has ruled steady and rates for Oily have undergone a small improvement.

Latest figures are \$500 to \$655 for Oily, and \$550 to \$630 for Paper-wrapped according to quality.

To-day's stocks are estimated as under:—

New Patna	1,500 chests.
New Benares	500 "
Malwa	280 "
Persian	720 "

COURSE OF THE HONGKONG OPIUM MARKET.

DATE.	PATNA.		BENARES.		MALWA.	
	New.	Old.	New.	Old.	New.	Old.
1897. S	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$
Sept. 1	730	—	732½	—	870 900 920 940	—
Sept. 2	737½	—	732½	—	870 900 920 940	—
Sept. 3	737½	—	737½	—	870 900 920 940	—
Sept. 4	742½	—	740	—	870 900 920 940	—
Sept. 5	742½	—	741½	—	870 900 920 940	—
Sept. 6	742½	—	740	—	870 900 920 940	—
Sept. 7	740	—	740	—	870 900 920 940	—
Sept. 8	740	—	740	—	870 900 920 940	—

COTTON.

COTTON, 8th September.—Absolutely no business done. Stock, about 24 bales.

Bombay	\$17.50 to 18.50 p. pl.
Kurrachee	16.50 to 18.75 "
Bengal, Rangoon, and Dacca	20.00 to 21.75 "
Shanghai and Japanese ..	24.00 to 24.50 "
Tungchow and Ningpo ..	24.00 to 24.50 "
Madras (Best)	19.50 to 20.50 "

RICE.

HONGKONG, 8th September.—The arrivals are hardly sufficient to meet the demand for Singapore and prices continue to advance. Quotations are:—

Saigon, Ordinary	\$2.70 to 2.75
" Round, good quality	2.84 to 2.89
" Long	2.95 to 3.00
Siam, Field, mill cleaned, No. 2 ..	2.75 to 2.80
" Garden, No. 1 ..	3.16 to 3.20
" White	4.15 to 4.10
" Fine Cargo	4.16 to 4.20

COALS.

HONGKONG, 8th September.—Little Business doing. Quotations are:—

Cardiff	\$16.50 to 18.00 ex ship.
Australian	8.50 small.
Milke Lump	11.00 lump.
Milke Lump ..	10.00 to 10.50 ex ship, nominal
Milke Small ..	8.50 to 9.00 none offering
Moji Lump ..	7.75 to 9.50 ex ship, sales

MISCELLANEOUS IMPORTS.

HONGKONG, 8th September.—Amongst the sales reported are the following:—

YARN AND PIECE GOODS:—Bombay Yarn.—60 bales No. 8 at \$88.50, 1,795 bales No. 10 at \$91 to \$100.50, 500 bales No. 12 at \$93.25 to \$100, 165 bales No. 16 at \$100.50 to \$100, 670 bales No. 20 at \$107 to \$119. **Japanese Yarn.**—100 bales No. 20 at \$114. **Grey Shirtings.**—600 pieces 8½ lbs. 2 Fish at \$3.02½, 300 pieces 8½ lbs. Lion and Arrow at \$2.87½, 500 pieces 10 lbs. Blue Triangle at \$4.05, 500 pieces 10 lbs. Palace at \$3.70, 250 pieces 10 lbs. Moon and Cock at \$3.70. **White Shirtings.**—1,000 pieces B. at \$5.20, 550 pieces B.K. at \$4.97½, 150 pieces E.K. at \$6.15, 500 pieces Roast Pig at \$3.70, 1,250 pieces No. 500 at \$3.60 to \$3.70, 250 pieces Cathead No. 500 at \$3.65. **T. Cloths.**—750 pieces 7 lbs. Mexican Feather Brush at \$2.12½, 1,105 pieces 7 lbs. Mexican Blue Dragon, B.B., at \$2.45. **Turkey Reds.**—250 pieces 5 lbs. Clock at \$3.35, 200 pieces 5½ lbs. Clock at \$3.55, 550 pieces 4½ lbs. Fish at \$3.07½, 450 pieces 6 lbs. Fish at \$3.95. **Camlets.**—30 pieces 9 Old Men dark blue at \$19.50, 150 pieces 9 Old Men assorted at \$18.50. **Long Ells.**—200 pieces 9 lbs. Scarlet at \$7.90, 200 pieces 8 lbs. Scarlet at \$7.40.

METALS.—Lead—1,260 piculs Australia at \$8.75. Tin—300 slabs Foong Chai at \$38, 200 Slabs Siam at \$36.50. Iron—500 kegs wire nails at \$6.45, 3,000 bundles small round rods at \$4.90.

SHANGHAI, 2nd September.—(From Messrs. Noel Murray & Co's. Piece Goods Trade Report).—Business remains in statu quo, the only transactions throughout the week being confined to the Auctions. One of these has been suspended pro tem, which certainly seems to be the proper thing to do, as the improvement in prices does not in any way approximate to the decline that has taken place in Exchange. It seems, too, that the prices paid are only kept up by a few of the trade, probably their own holdings, and are certainly

not induced by any legitimate demand from outside markets. These are certainly not in as satisfactory a state as could be wished, particularly as regards the north. No complaint can be made so far as to the quantities taken this year, nor probably will there be for the rest of the season, but a serious obstacle is gradually being built up that threatens to usurp the English and American trade in the Northern provinces, the latter more especially, in the near future. This is the quiet but steady advance of the Russians into Manchuria. While the two nations most concerned, from a commercial point of view, are apparently quite indifferent, she is slowly but surely absorbing that valuable province. She is quietly mobilising her troops and has already there an army of 80,000 men, while Russian steamers are running on the river as far as Kirin. China is under her thumb and dare not move, and the treaties made, or pending, between Russia, France, and Germany, as recently reported by Reuter, have a significance that Anglo-Saxons interested in this part of the world had best beware of without delay. To return to what more nearly concerns the current trade, clearances of former purchases continue to go on satisfactorily, and it looks now as though the Autumn settling day, which falls in about a week's time, will be tided over without much trouble. Until that is passed it is extremely unlikely that any business will be done, but some of the natives feel confident that after it is over it will be possible to once more resume trade. Nothing whatever has been done for forward delivery, there being a very wide margin between the ideas of indentors and prices ruling in Manchester. One firm informed us that they did not put through a single package last month for the Spring trade, while during August last year they booked over 3,000 packages and the same thing applies practically to the whole trade. It is difficult of course to get out of the natives the prices that are being obtained in the country for their goods, or whether they have been able to get any appreciable advance; this can only be arrived at when present supplies are exhausted and fresh orders come to hand.

Metals.—(From Messrs. Alex. Bielfeld & Co's Report) 3rd September:—Since our last report exchange has been the sole topic of conversation, and there has been absolutely no business done. Deliveries have been very slow, one factor conducing to this being the high rate of interest charged by the native banks. The gambling in gold that has been indulged in of late to a great extent, has affected the banks in many cases, and they are, therefore, less able than usual to assist their clients. Large quantities of gold were sold for delivery during the 9th and 10th moons, at Tls. 360, to Tls 375, while the price now stands at Tls. 420, this will cause ruin to many unless there is a fall in the near future. In local trade there seems to be no possibility of improvement until the exchange rate improves, for, while under the stress of the immediate wants, local prices have risen from 3 to 5 per cent., the laid down cost has increased 20 per cent., and this the dealers cannot meet. As for contracts, dealers will neither venture at sterling rates or pay the local tael rate, so that there is a dead-lock that only time will be able to break. The evil effects of Japan's action in adopting the gold standard on insufficient data are already visible, the rate for all Japanese goods being inflated to the manifest advantage of the local producers. This will be a favourable factor in the development of the new Cotton Mills, however, and will serve as an additional impulse to bring about the inauguration of still other new industries here, such as have proved so successful in the "Land of the Rising Sun."

JOINT STOCK SHARES.

HONGKONG, 8th September.—A fair business has been transacted during the week under review. Rates have ruled firmer and in some cases show substantial advances.

BANKS.—Hongkong and Shanghai came into demand immediately after the settlements and a fair number changed hands at 166, 167, 168, and 169 per cent. prem., Shanghai supplying our market with most part of the shares. On time a few small lots have been negotiated at equivalent rates for October and December. The latest London rate is £39. 10s. The market closes steady at 169. Nationals have been on offer for most of the week at \$20 without finding buyers and close at \$19½. Bank of Chinas continue neglected.

MARINE INSURANCES.—China Traders remain steady at \$78½ to \$79, without

business; no shares, however, appear to be obtainable under \$80. Unions have been enquired for and small sales have been effected at the advanced rate of \$240 and \$242½, at which latter more could be placed. Cantons continue on offer at \$175 without sales, and Straits are obtainable at quotations. North Chinas and Yangtszes have been negotiated in Shanghai at quotations.

FIRE INSURANCES.—Hongkongs are still neglected without sales, whilst small sales of Chinas have taken place at \$105 and \$104, closing with a demand for small lots at \$104½.

SHIPPING.—Hongkong, Canton and Macao are still quiet and declining; after sales in the early part of the week at \$32½ and \$32½ the rate gradually fell to \$31½, at which a fair number of shares changed hands. It is difficult to find a reason for the fall, but the great advance in the price of coal appears to be the soundest one that is brought forward; market closes with buyers at \$32. Indo-Chinas have ruled out of favour, sellers vainly offering to part at \$48, and a point lower would in all probability bring out shares. China and Manilas are still on the market in small lots at \$76. Douglases have found a fair number of buyers at \$66. It is understood that the forthcoming report, which is a good one, will recommend a final dividend of \$4 per share, making 12 per cent. for the year.

REFINERIES.—China Sugars have been imported largely from Shanghai at \$135 and \$136, and local sales have been effected at \$137 and \$138, the market closing steady at \$138. Luzons have continued on offer at \$42 without leading to business.

MINING.—Punjoms ruled fairly firm in the early part of the week with sales at \$5.75, \$6, and \$6.25; the news of another poor month's crushing (aggregating about 342 oz.), however, again caused a drop in the rate and shares were pretty freely offered at \$5½ without finding buyers; the market closes at \$5½. Charbonnages are obtainable in small lots at \$81. New Balmorals ruled neglected during the early part of the week, but towards the end a small demand set in and sales were effected at \$1.70 for prefs. and at \$1.40 for ordinaries; at time of writing the market is steady at these rates. Olivers after small sales at \$5½, \$5½, and \$6 suddenly jumped to \$7.75 on receipt of the following telegram from the mines:—"The Eureka Mine, have opened up a fine body of ore at the bottom of the shaft, gold is visible throughout, breadth not yet determined." The market closes steady. Jelebus have changed hands at quotation in small unimportant lots. Raubs after further sales at \$19½ gradually fell to \$18½ after sales at intermediate rates. Written advices from Singapore estimate the forthcoming crushing at about 1,800 oz. from 2,400 tons ore, or 15 dwt. The market closes steady at \$18½.

DOCKS, WHARVES, AND GODOWNS.—Hongkong and Whampoa Decks.—The demand at 215 per cent. prem. reported last week continuing without bringing out any shares the rate quickly rose to 218, at which a fair business was negotiated. At time of writing small lots are enquired for at that rate. Kowloon Wharves continue quiet and more or less neglected with but small sales at \$63. Wanchais have found buyers at \$44½.

LANDS, HOTELS, AND BUILDINGS.—Hongkong Lands have been in some demand and shares have changed hands in fair lots at \$74, \$74½, \$74½, and \$75, the market closing steady to strong with buyers at the last rate. Kowloon Lands remain quiet with small business at quotations. West Points have changed hands at \$21½ and more shares are obtainable. Humphreys Estates have been further negotiated at \$9½ and close steady. Hotels have remained quiet and without business at \$48½.

MISCELLANEOUS.—Green Islands have ruled steady and in fair demand without much business, small lots only having changed hands at quotations; market closes firm. Watsons have continued dull and neglected at \$12½ with small sales. Electrics have been eagerly enquired for at \$9.50 to \$10, but very few shares have changed hands. Ropes, Fenwicks, and Ices have been negotiated at quotations in small lots, and Tramways still continue on offer without finding buyers.

COTTON AND SPINNING MILLS.—Ewos have been in some demand at Tls. 114 and Tls. 115 and a few small sales have taken place at latter rate. Internationals, Laon Kung Mow's, and Soy Chees have also been enquired for at quotations, but although they have changed hands in Shanghai no local sales are reported. Hongkong Cottons with two or three lots forced on the market have fallen to \$18 after small sales at \$20 and \$19, closing with further sellers.

Closing quotations are as follow:—

COMPANY.	PAID UP.	QUOTATION.
Banks—		[\$336.25, sales]
Hongkong & Shanghai	\$125 169	prem=
China & Japan, pref.	\$5	nominal
Do. ordinary	\$1 10s.	nominal
Do. deferred	\$1	5s, sales & buyers
Natl. Bank of China		
B. Shares	\$3	\$19, sellers
Founders Shares	\$1	\$20
Bell's Asbestos E. A.	\$1	\$9, sellers
Campbell, Moore & Co.	\$10	\$8
China Sugar	\$100	\$138, sales & buyers
Cotton Mills—		
Ewo.	Tls. 160	Tls. 115, sales & s.
Hongkong	\$29	\$18, sales & sellers
International	Tls. 100	Tls. 122
Laon Kung Mow	Tls. 190	Tls. 116, sellers
Soychee	Tls. 500	Tls. 575, sellers
Yahloong	Tls. 40	Tls. 42
Dairy Farm Co.	\$5	\$4, buyers
Fenwick & Co., Geo.	\$25	\$28 25, sales
Green Island Cement.	\$10	\$44 1/2 ex. N.I., \$29 1/2 ex. N.I., \$14 1/2, sel.
H. & China Bakery	\$50	\$33, buyers
Hongkong & C. Gas	\$10	\$110, buyers
Hongkong Electric	\$8	\$10.25, sal. & buyers
H. H. L. Tramways	\$100	\$112, sellers
Hongkong Hotel	\$50	\$48 1/2
Hongkong Ice	\$25	\$113, sales & buyers
H. & K. Wharf & G.	\$50	\$63, sellers
Hongkong Rope	\$50	\$170, sales & buyers
H. & W. Dock	\$125	\$218 p. ct. prem.=
Insurances—		[\$397.50, sal. & s.]
Canton	\$50	\$175, sellers
China Fire	\$20	\$104 1/2, buyers
China Traders	\$25	\$79, sales
Hongkong Fire	\$50	\$357 1/2, sellers
North-China	\$25	Tls. 200, buyers
Straits	\$20	\$17 1/2, sellers
Union	\$25	\$242 1/2, sal. & buyers
Yangtze	\$60	\$158, sellers
Land and Building—		
H. Land Investment	\$50	\$75, sales & buyers
Humphreys Estate	\$10	\$9 1/2, sellers
Kowloon Land & B.	\$30	\$9
West Point Building	\$10	\$21 1/2, sales & sellers
Luzon Sugar	\$100	\$42, sellers
Mining—		
Charbonnages	Fcs. 500	\$31, buyers
Great E. & O'donian	\$5	\$5, sellers
Do. Do.	\$2 1/2	\$2.10, sales & sellers
Jebeu	\$5	\$2.10, sales
New Bulmoral	\$1	\$1.40
Do. Preference	\$1	\$1.70, sal. & sellers
Oliver's Mines, A.	\$5	\$20, sellers
Do. B.	\$2 1/2	\$ 1, sellers
Punjom	\$1	\$3 1/2, buyers
Do. Preference	\$1	\$1.50, sales
Rauls	13s. 10d.	\$18 1/2, sal. & buyers
New Amoy Dock	\$10	\$18 1/2, sellers
Steamship Coys.—		
China and Manila	\$50	\$75, sales & buyers
China Mutual Ord.	\$5	\$2 10s, buyers
Do. Preference	\$10	\$7, buyers
Douglas S. S. Co.	\$50	\$65, sales & sellers
H. Canton and M.	\$15	\$32, sellers
Indo-China S. N.	\$10	\$47, sal. s.
Wanchai Warehouse Co.	\$37 1/2	\$14 1/2, sales
Watson & Co., S. A.	\$10	\$12 50, sal. & sellers

J. V. Y. VERNON, Broker.

SHANGHAI, 27th August.—(From Messrs. J. P. Bisset & Co.'s Report.)—A moderate business was done, chiefly in Bank, Cotton Mill, and Tobacco shares. The stringency of the money market still continues in Hongkong, with the accompanying high rate of exchange. This stimulates sales of shares to, and checks the purchase of shares from, the South. Banks.—Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation.—Business was dull in the early part of the week, but latterly there was a demand locally and from Hongkong, and cash shares were placed locally at 182 1/2, 182, 183, and 183 1/2 per cent premium, and 190 for December delivery. Other Bank shares are unchanged. Marine Insurance.—Business has been confined to a sale of Yangtze Insurance shares at \$160. Fire Insurance.—Chinas have been placed at \$109. Shipping.—Indo-China S. N. shares have changed hands at Tls. 36 1/2 cash and Tls. 37 for the 30th

September. Sugar Companies.—China Sugar Refining shares were placed at \$144 and \$143 for cash, cum div., and for the 31st October at \$140 1/2 and \$144 ex div. Docks, Wharves and Godowns.—S. C. Farham & Co., Ltd.—Shares have been placed at Tls. 180 to Tls. 182 1/2. Shanghai Engineering & Dock shares were sold at Tls. 103 to Tls. 102. Shanghai and Hongkong Wharf shares changed hands at Tls. 123 ex dividend. Hongkong and Kowloon Wharf and Godown shares are offering at \$63. Lands.—Shanghai Land shares have changed hands at Tls. 90 1/2. Hongkong Land share are wanted at \$79. Industrial.—In Cotton Mill shares, Ewos changed hands at Tls. 115, Internationals at Tls. 122/123 1/2 cash, Tls. 121 for September and Tls. 128 for December. Laon Kung Mow's at Tls. 115 cash, and 116/117 for September, and Soy Chees at Tls. 577 1/2. China Flour Mill shares were placed at Tls. 54 1/2. Tugs and Cargo Boats.—Shanghai Cargo Boat shares were sold at Tls. 197 to Tls. 198 cash and Tls. 197 for the end of September, and Cooperative Cargo Boat shares at Tls. 185 cash. Miscellaneous.—Shanghai-Sumatra Tobacco shares were dealt in at very irregular rates. Cash shares changed hands at Tls. 9 1/2 to Tls. 9 1/2, and declining gradually to Tls. 9 1/2, which is the closing rate. For the 30th November shares were sold at Tls. 105 and Tls. 103. There has been more business in Shanghai-Langkai Tobacco shares, which changed hands at Tls. 425 to Tls. 440 for cash, closing at Tls. 430, at Tls. 450/460 for September, Tls. 470 for October, Tls. 480/490 for November, Tls. 500 for December, Tls. 550 for March and Tls. 555 for April. Hall & Holtz shares were sold at \$11.

CLOSING QUOTATIONS.

WEDNESDAY, 8th September.
EXCHANGE.

ON LONDON. —	
Telegraphic Transfer	1 9 1/2
Bank Bills, on demand	1 9 1/2
Bank Bills, at 30 days' sight	1 9 1/2
Bank Bills, at 4 months' sight	1 9 1/2
Credits, at 4 months' sight	1 10
Documentary Bills, 4 months' sight	1 10 1/2
ON PARIS. —	
Bank Bills, on demand	2 27
Credits, at 4 months' sight	2 31
ON GERMANY. —	
On demand	1 84
ON NEW YORK. —	
Bank Bills, on demand	43 1/2
Credits, 60 days' sight	44 1/2
ON BOMBAY. —	
Telegraphic Transfer	135 1/2
Bank, on demand	136
ON CALCUTTA. —	
Telegraphic Transfer	135 1/2
Bank, on demand	136
ON SHANGHAI. —	
Bank, at sight	76
Private, 30 days' sight	76 1/2
ON YOKOHAMA. —	
On demand	11 1/2 pm.
ON MANILA. —	
On demand	5 1/2 pm.
ON SINGAPORE. —	
On demand	1 1/2 pm.
SOVEREIGNS Bank's Buying Rate	10.90
GOLD LEAF, 100 fine, per tael	56.00

TONNAGE.

HONGKONG, 8th September.—Our freight market remains about the same as previously reported. Saigon to Hongkong, a medium-sized steamer is wanted at 10 cents per picul; for Java one settlement has been made, but it is to replace a "Shan" steamer previously reported; for Singapore, 13 cents per picul is being offered.

Newchwang to Canton, ready steamers are not wanted, but for new season's crop expected about middle of October 20 cents per picul is freely offered. Coal freights show a slight improvement on rates paid early in the fortnight; tonnage wanted to load at Mororan to Hongkong at \$1.60 per ton, from Moji to this \$1, and to Singapore \$2 per ton.

Sailers.—Our market is quite bare of home going vessels; hence to New York one settlement is reported, the rate being the equivalent of about 12s. 6d. per ton. Further tonnage is wanted for early loading.

The following are the settlements:—

Abner Coburn—American ship, 1,879 tons, Hongkong, to New York, private terms.

Sumatra—British barque, 721 tons, Rajang to Hongkong, \$6,000 in full.

Vale of Doon—British barque, 669 tons, Rajang to Hongkong, \$5,200 in full.

Unity—Norwegian steamer, 1,013 tons, Mororan to Singapore, \$2 per ton.

Marie Jensen—German steamer, 1,850 tons, Moji Hongkong, 90 cents per ton.

Unique—Norwegian steamer, 1,309 tons, Moji to Hongkong, 90 cents per ton.

Bushmills—British steamer, Saigon to one port, 18 1/2 cents; if two ports Java, 19 1/2 cents per picul.

Cromarty—British steamer, 1,864 tons, four ports Java to Hongkong, 16 cents per picul.

Foochow—British steamer, 1,233 tons, Hongay to Shanghai, \$2.10 per ton.

Takung—British steamer, 977 tons, Hongay to Shanghai, \$2.10 per ton.

Fanning—British steamer, 1,16 tons, Hongay to Hongkong, \$1.25 per ton.

Chunshing—British steamer, 1,418 tons, Hongay to Hongkong, \$1.25 per ton; thence to Singapore, \$2 per ton.

Petrol—German steamer, 1,251 tons, Cebu to Yokohama, 27 cents per picul.

Hermes—Norwegian steamer, 870 tons, Iloilo to Yokohama for Kobe, 27 cents per picul.

Frisper—Norwegian steamer, 846 tons, two trips Bangkok to Singapore, 15 1/2 cents per picul.

Germania—German steamer, 1,775 tons, to Saigon, \$1,000; thence to Hongkong, \$5,000 in full.

Victoria—Swedish steamer, 98 tons, monthly, 1 month, \$4,000 per month.

Amiga—German steamer, 77 tons, monthly, 3/3 months, \$3,000 per month.

Inguban—German steamer, 823 tons, hence to Mauritius and back, \$3,500 per month.

VESSELS ON THE BERTH.

For LONDON.—*Neslor* (str.), *Ningchow* (str.), *Shanghai* (str.), *Patroclus* (str.).

For SAN FRANCISCO.—*China* (str.), *Belgie* (str.).

For BREMEN.—*Prinz Heinrich* (str.).

For MARSEILLES.—*Sighele* (str.).

For VANGUARD.—*Empress of Japan* (str.).

For NEW YORK.—*Morrea* (str.), *Benalder* (str.), *Lucy A. Nichols*, *Gov. Robie*, *Pallan* (str.).

For AUSTRALIA.—*Taiwan* (str.).

For TACOMA.—*Onoparc* (str.).

For PORTLAND.—*Daguerre*, *Flintshire* (str.).

For BALTIMORE.—*Isaac Reed*.

SHIPPING.

ARRIVALS AND DEPARTURES SINCE LAST MAIL.

HONGKONG.

September—ARRIVALS.

1. Hertha, German str., from Hamburg.
1. Lyeemoon, German str., from Canton.
1. Frejr, Danish str., from Haiphong.
1. Crown of Arragon, Brit. str., from F'chow.
1. Glaucus, British str., from Liverpool.
1. Thales, British str., from Taiwanfoo.
1. St. Ninian, British str., from New York.
1. Progress, German str., from Quinhon.
1. Kwanglee, Chinese str., from Canton.
1. Catherine Apur, Brit. str., from Calcutta.
1. Haiman, British str., from Tamsui.
2. Ceylon, British str., from Yokohama.
2. Chiynen, Chinese str., from Shanghai.
2. Prometheus, British str., from Foochow.
2. Ask, Danish str., from Haiphong.
2. Velox, German str., from Amoy.
2. Machew, British str., from Bangkok.
2. Triumph, German str., from Pakhoi.
2. Cheangchew, British str., from Penang.
2. Cosmopolit, German str., from Touron.
2. Kiangnan, Chinese str., from Canton.
3. Menmuir, British str., from Sydney.
3. Kweiyang, British str., from Amoy.
3. Krim, Norwegian str., from Hongay.
3. Taksang, British str., from Swatow.
3. J. Christensen, Ger. str., from Sourabaya.
4. Choysang, British str., from Canton.
4. Hanoi, French str., from Haiphong.
4. Onsang, British str., from Sourabaya.
4. Lennox, British str., from Amoy.
4. Hailoong, British str., from Tamsui.
4. Devawongse, British str., from Bangkok.
4. Taiwan, British str., from Shanghai.
4. Aglaia, German str., from Foochow.
4. China, Hawaiian str., from San Francisco.
4. Hermes, Norwegian str., from Iloilo.
4. Hongkong, French str., from Haiphong.
5. Cowrie, British str., from Batoum.
5. Haitan, British str., from Coast Ports.
5. Independent, Ger. str., from Sourabaya.
5. Maria Valerie, Aust. str., from Y'hama.
5. Medusa, Austrian str., from Kobe.
5. Ravenna, British str., from Bombay.

- 5, Riojun Maru, Jap. str., from S'thampton.
 5, Sumatra, British str., from London.
 5, Tosa Maru, Jap. str., from Yokohama.
 5, Chiyuen, Chinese str., from Canton.
 5, Nanyang, German str., from Canton.
 6, Sishan, British str., from Saigon.
 6, Chihli, British str., from Newchwang.
 6, Pakshan, British str., from Swatow.
 6, Clara, German str., from Haiphong.
 6, Fushun, Chinese str., from Shanghai.
 6, Rosetta, British str., from Shanghai.
 6, Tsinan, British str., from Swatow.
 6, Verona, British str., from Yokohama.
 6, Loongmoon, German str., from Shanghai.
 7, Lady Farnham, British str., from N. York.
 7, Sumatra, British str., from Manila.
 7, Taiwan, British str., from Canton.
 7, Nanyang, British str., from Singapore.
 7, Sabine Rickmers, Ger. str., from Swatow.
 7, Bushmills, British str., from Otaru.
 8, Kweiyang, British str., from Canton.
 8, Formosa, British str., from Famsui.
 8, Victoria, Swedish str., from Haiphong.
 8, Wingsang, British str., from Shanghai.
 8, Haitan, French str., from Pakhoi.

September—DEPARTURES.

- 1, Holstein, German str., for Samarang.
 1, Irene, German str., for Singapore.
 1, Chusan, German str., for Yokohama.
 1, Empress of India, British str., for Vancouver.
 1, Sagami Maru, Jap. str., for Nagasaki.
 1, Salazie, French str., for Europe.
 2, Mathilde, German str., for Hoihow.
 2, Falkenburg, German str., for Hongay.
 2, Chiyuen, Chinese str., for Canton.
 2, Doric, British str., for San Francisco.
 2, Esmeralda, British str., for Manila.
 2, Kwanglee, Chinese str., for Shanghai.
 2, Kwongsang, British str., for Tientsin.
 2, Tyemmoon, German str., for Shanghai.
 2, Namon, British str., for Coast Ports.
 2, Pakshan, British str., for Swatow.
 2, St. Ninian, British str., for Shanghai.
 3, Frejr, Danish str., for Hoihow.
 3, Ceylon, British str., for London.
 3, Chusan, British str., for Hongay.
 3, Hertha, German str., for Yokohama.
 3, Letimbro, Italian str., for Bombay.
 3, Thales, British str., for Swatow.
 3, Velox, German str., for Hilo.
 3, Wongkoi, British str., for Bangkok.
 3, Sierra Nevada, British ship, for Portland.
 4, Heathbank, British ship, for S. Francisco.
 4, Glucous, British str., for Shanghai.
 4, Taksang, British str., for Hongay.
 4, Ask, Danish str., for Hoihow.
 4, Cheangchew, British str., for Amoy.
 4, Krim, Norwegian str., for Canton.
 4, Prometheus, British str., for London.
 5, Haimun, British str., for Swatow.
 5, Kiangnan, Chinese str., for Swatow.
 5, Lennox, British str., for New York.
 5, Menmuir, British str., for Kobe.
 5, Progress, German str., for Quinhon.
 5, Ravenna, British str., for Shanghai.
 5, Sabine Rickmers, Ger. str., for Swatow.
 5, Taiwan, British str., for Canton.
 5, Triumph, German str., for Hoihow.
 5, Landseer, Amr. ship, for New York.
 6, Chihli, British str., for Canton.
 6, Choyang, British str., for Swatow.
 6, Cowrie, British str., for Nagasaki.
 6, Hanoi, French str., for Haiphong.
 6, Memnon, British str., for Kudat.
 7, Germania, German steamer, for Saigon.
 7, Pakshan, British str., for Singapore.
 7, Riojun Maru, Jap. str., for Nagasaki.
 7, Victoria, British str., for Tacoma.
 7, Catherine Apcar, Brit. str., for Calcutta.
 7, Chiyuen, Chinese str., for Shanghai.
 7, Fushun, Chinese str., for Canton.
 7, Hailong, British str., for Swatow.
 7, Tosa Maru, Jap. str., for Singapore.
 7, Sumatra, British str., for Shanghai.
 7, Loongmoon, German str., for Canton.
 7, Ancona, British ship, for Manila.
 8, Aglaia, German str., for Hamburg.
 8, Taiwan, British str., for Swatow.
 8, Bushmills, British str., for Saigon.
 8, Lady Furness, British str., for Shanghai.
 8, Cosmopolit, German str., for Tournon.
 8, Hongkong, French str., for Haiphong.
 8, Haitan, British str., for Swatow.
 8, Medusa, Austrian str., for Trieste.
 8, Phra Nang, British str., for Bangkok.
 8, Wuotan, German str., for Saigon.
 8, Zafiro, British str., for Manila.

PASSENGER LIST.

ARRIVED.

Per Yarra for Hongkong from Marseilles—Messrs. Emile Schütz and Joaquin Cardio da Costa. From Colombo—Mr. Saltwell. From Singapore—Capt. Wingate, Messrs. F. Corsten and Tan Yung Seck, Miss Carroll, Messrs. F. de Cruz, S. Masso, Cheng Bun Teck, S. Kamiko, and J. S. Levy. For Shanghai from Marseilles—Revs. P. P. Agnus, Ther nes, Delpal, Rousseau, Louis, Bousquet, Renault, Fayet, Donsine, Dalalix, and Sergue, and Mr. Trumm. From Singapore—Mr. K. S. Min, Rev. P. Couvreur, Mrs. S. D. Guinness, Mrs. A. J. S. Watt. From Saigon—Mr. Geiller. For Kobe from Marseilles—Mr. Rolland. From Singapore—Messrs. A. M. Abdod Kyum and A. Handmaker. For Yokohama from Marseilles—Baron Decken, Messrs. Rouffart, de Murielly, Lengruher Krop, Kinaldos da Lima e Silva, Jacoulet, Chevalier, T. Osada, and Kataro Muchizeki. From Colombo—Mr. J. S. Nawke. From Singapore—Mr. Thomas Watson. From Saigon—Messrs. Lachapelle, Voreaux, Veaux, Mrs. Lanthoane. For Hongkong from Saigon—Messrs. Louis Geidel, W. C. Ramkin, and Assim.

Per Salazie, for Hongkong from Shanghai—Messrs. F. Gutierrez and J. Happer, Mrs. and Miss A. J. Wehrung. From Yokohama—Messrs. Beaugez, Granier, Boelchard, and Libarum. From Kobe—Col. Hastings, and Mr. Low Lon Chew. For Saigon from Shanghai—Messrs. R. Prokopu and Stang. For Singapore—Messrs. Brouland, G. Anderson, and Anderson. For Singapore from Kobe—Mr. Fukushima. For Port Said from Shanghai—Lieuts. Mantonroff and Snow. For Marseilles from Shanghai—Mr. Maty, Comte de Borchgrave, Mrs. Lan, Messrs. J. S. Lamplough, Walin, and Keaul. From Yokohama—Comdr. Yamaguchi, Miss Lassueur, Messrs. Hirai, Fukusa, Yamada, Snokuchi, Furuya, J. Bietiger, K. Massima, and Meriet. From Kobe—Mr. Mathunot.

Per Catherine Apcar, from Calcutta—Mr. and Mrs. Haywood, Mr. Adamson, Miss McIntosh, Mr. J. Boreck, Rev. and Mrs. and the Misses Welsh.

Per Ceylon, from Yokohama—Mr. and Mrs. Holland (Shanghai to London). Miss Tolley and Miss Hook (Fouchow to Hongkong.)

Per Menmuir, from Sydney, &c.—Messrs. Smithers and Hobden.

Per Sumatra, from London—Mr. D. Sinclair and Mrs. Montserrat.

Per China, from San Francisco, &c.—Mr. and Mrs. A. H. Rennie, Mr. and Mrs. E. Sanderman, Col. and Mrs. C. F. Turnbull, Mr. and Mrs. A. H. Mancell, Miss G. J. MacLagan, Mr. S. Northcote, Mr. John Blake, and Mr. G. McDonnell.

Per Tosa Maru, from Yokohama for Hongkong—Messrs. M. Jenkins, H. Matfin, S. Mayakawa, Y. Nayaki, B. H. Santos. For London—Messrs. P. Yamamoto, Y. Yasuoka, Y. Negishi, R. Ipright, C. Nisei, C. Niwa, R. Newhouse, Y. Hasegawa, and K. Noyawa.

Per Ravenna, for Hongkong from London—Mr. J. Inoky, Quarter-Master-Sergt. Former Pryon. From Gibraltar—Mr. J. A. Amaral. From Bombay—Messrs. J. J. Tavarai and D. C. Postwalla. From Penang—Mr. and Mrs. Gompertz. From Singapore—Lieut. H. Holmes, Mrs. Douglas, Messrs. W. M. Montgomery, C. H. Hasson, and J. Sloan. For Shanghai from London—Mr. Dunstan. From Colombo—Mr. C. B. Clay. For Yokohama from Brindisi—Mr. Creamer. From Bombay—Mr. R. A. A. Jenkins, Mrs. Jenkins and infant, Mr. W. W. Wilson, Mrs. Wilson and 3 children.

Per Tsinan, from Sydney, &c.—Mr. and Mrs. Waldron, Mr. and Mrs. Mitchell and son, Mrs. Meech and son, Messrs. Revielle, Taylor and Welch.

Per Rosetta, from Shanghai for Hongkong—Mr. Burley. For Penang—Mr. Keat Hong. For London—Messrs. Carnaghan, Sanderson, Northcombe, Mr. and Mrs. Gould, and Miss Baschnidt.

Per Verona, for Hongkong from Yokohama—Messrs. G. Hindley and C. Anderson. From Kobe—Messrs. J. A. F. Nutt, Y. Kakichi, Chang Cho, Cheung Ho, Mrs. Lo Shi. From Nagasaki—Messrs. Man Loong, Chong Heo, and Wing Foo. From Yokohama for Singapore—Mr. T. Koyama. From Kobe for Bombay—Mr. P. Lalaca.

DEPARTED.

Per Empress of India, for Shanghai—General and Mrs. Wilson Black, Messrs. D. E. Brown, T. C. Crane, A. Smith, and Wong Yu Chuen. For Nagasaki—Mr. T. E. da Silva. For Kobe—Lieut. Nugent. For Yokohama—Mr. and Mrs. D. Goh and infant, Miss Black, Lieut. R. G. King, Messrs. W. A. Harper and J. Pimentel. For Vancouver, B.C.—Mr. and Mrs. Tam Yu Yuen. For Nanaimo—Mr. and Mrs. Lam Kee and infant. For New York—Mr. Chun Yutt. For London—Mrs. Todd. Mr. S. H. Levi. From Yokohama for London—Mr. and Mrs. Duff, Miss Douglas, Mr. A. F. Green.

Per Yarra, from Hongkong for Shanghai—Messrs. W. J. Mack and Gonsalves. For Kobe—Mr. Wong Lee Cho. For Yokohama—Mr. F. Cuillieret and Mr. Hung Chaw. For Shanghai from Marseilles—Revs. P. P. Aquines, Thermes, Delpal, Rousseau, Louis, Bousquet, Renaud, Fayet, Doussine, Dalalix, Sergue, and Trumm. From Singapore—Mr. K. S. Min, Rev. R. P. Couvreur, Messrs. S. D. Guinness and J. S. Witte. From Saigon—Mr. Geiller. For Kobe from Marseilles—Mr. Rolland. From Singapore—Messrs. A. M. Abdod Kyum and A. Handmaker. For Yokohama from Marseilles—Baron Decken, Messrs. Rouffart, Murielly, Lengruher Krop, Kinaldos da Lima e Silva, Jacoulet, Chevalier, E. Osada, and Kataro Muchizeki. From Colombo—Mr. J. S. Nawke. From Singapore—Mr. Thomas Watson. From Saigon—Messrs. Lachapelle, Voreaux, Veaux, and Mrs. Langthorne.

Per Salazie, from Hongkong for Singapore—Mrs. M. Katz. For Colombo—Mr. J. Martin. For Marseilles—Messrs. Scheffer and H. Pinton. From Shanghai for Saigon—Mr. R. Prokopu, Mr. Itang. For Singapore—Messrs. Brouland, G. Anderson, and Anderson. For Port Said—Lieuts. Mantonroff and Snow. For Marseilles—Mr. Maty, Comte E. de Borchgrave, Mrs. Lan, Messrs. J. S. Lamplough, Waim, and Kearn. From Kobe for Singapore—Mr. Fukushima. For Marseilles—Mr. Mathunot. From Yokohama for Marseilles—Comdt. Yamaguchi, Miss Lassueur, Dr. Hirai, Capt. Fukuda, Yamada, Inokuchi, Messrs. Furuya, J. Bietiges, Massima, and Meried.

Per Sagami Maru, from Australia for Yokohama—Messrs. D. C. Askew and H. J. Tilley. From Hongkong for Nagasaki—Mr. J. Nagata. For Kobe—Mr. S. Sugimoto. For Yokohama—Messrs. J. Miyagaki and S. Hirayama.

Per Doric, for Shanghai—Mrs. L. Montford, and Mr. G. B. Adamson. For Nagasaki—Mrs. Cohen. For Yokohama—Mr. G. de Rivas, and Mrs. Brook. For San Francisco—Miss Carroll. For Plymouth—Staff-Surgeon and Mrs. S. Keays.

Per Tyemmoon, for Shanghai—Messrs. Vöpel, C. Dede, Herm, Tustus, and Capt. Vissen.

Per Esmeralda, for Manila—Mr. and Mrs. Holland, Messrs. Yik Kan Po and Pompillo Jorge.

Per Wongkoi, for Bangkok—Col. Hastings.

Per Pakshan, for Swatow—Mr. and Mrs. Thompson, and Miss de Cruz.

Per Letimbro, for Singapore—Messrs. S. Maggi and W. Arnst. For Penang—Messrs. Chew Kin On and Li Chin Choy. For Bombay—Messrs. S. C. F. Mathias, Antonio Rodrigues, Mahomet, and Mrs.

Per Ceylon, for London—Paymaster C. J. Ferguson, R.N.

Per Ravenna, from Hongkong for Shanghai—Capt. A. W. S. Wingate, Messrs. F. Corsten, Johnsen, and C. H. Ross. For Kobe—Mr. E. B. Saltwell. For Shanghai from London—Mr. Dunstan. From Colombo—Mr. C. B. Clay. For Yokohama from Brindisi—Mr. Creamer. From Bombay—Mr. and Mrs. R. A. A. Jenkins and infant, Mr. and Mrs. Wilson and 3 children.

Per Tosa Maru, for London from Japan—Messrs. T. Yamamoto, Y. Yasuoka, Y. Negishi, R. Wright, C. Nirei, R. Newhouse, C. Kiwa, Y. Hasegawa, and K. Noyawa. From Hongkong—Mr. Wm. Scott, Mrs. G. T. Rivers and child.

Per Catherine Apcar, for Calcutta—Messrs. J. Boeck, S. Haywood, Col. and Mrs. Turnbull.

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